



Baghdad rounds up westerners to bring pressure on governments as UN discusses worldwide sanctions

Stranded air passengers taken to Iraq

By ANDREW MC EWEN IN LONDON AND JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN DUBAI

THE Gulf emergency worsened last night as British, American and German airline passengers who had been stranded in Kuwait were rounded up and moved to Baghdad, raising fears that they could become hostages.

The move came a few hours before United Nations Security Council began discussing a ban on virtually all trade with Iraqi and occupied Kuwait. The timing suggested that Iraq was using the passengers to put pressure on the governments to drop the ban.

As the tension grew, the US State Department said that Iraqi forces seemed to be building up close to the border with Saudi Arabia. Iraqi claims to have begun a withdrawal were dismissed by Washington, London and other governments. Saudi troops began moving up to the border, apparently as an invasion precaution.

Washington intensified its diplomatic efforts to persuade Saudi Arabia and Turkey, whose pipelines carry nearly all of Iraq's oil exports, to co-operate in the event of a naval blockade. James Baker, the US Secretary of State, is to visit Turkey and Richard Cheney, the Defence Secretary, is in Saudi Arabia.

Iraq reduced deliveries of oil through its 800-mile twin pipeline to Turkey, closing one line of its network. The atmosphere of crisis was reflected in Iraq by large preparations for a possible air

ON OTHER PAGES

Sanctions debate Page 2
Iraq encircled Page 3
Amir Taheri Page 10
Leading article and Letters Page 11

not on the same plane as the Britons, Americans and Germans were also sent to the Iraqi capital, suggesting that far more people could be at risk, possibly including residents. Britain has 3,000 people in Kuwait and 2,000 in Iraq.

The Spanish foreign ministry said a Spanish businessman was missing from his hotel after being taken away by Iraqi troops on Sunday with eleven American citizens, four French people, three Britons and two Italians.

The moves came after warnings by the puppet administration in Kuwait that governments that imposed sanctions "should not expect us to act honourably".

Iraqi ambassadors in London and other capitals followed that with a warning yesterday that "sanctions will in the long run be damaging to the very countries imposing them". Azmi al-Salhi, the Iraqi ambassador in London, expressed the deep regret and surprise with which Iraq viewed Britain's position. He said that Britain's support for sanctions "can only be damaging to Britain's current and future interests". Any aggression towards Iraq would be firmly dealt with. The ambassador had called a press conference but refused to answer questions, confining himself to a statement.

A further hint of Iraq's apparent intentions was that it continued to hold 34 British non-commissioned officers who had been moved to Baghdad on Sunday. They remained under guard at an hotel and Iraq seemed to be ignoring British diplomatic efforts to free them. The Foreign Office said that they were in temporary custody and were well treated. One other man, an oil-worker, had been moved to the same hotel but was not under guard.

The Foreign Office summoned Mr al-Salhi and there was what sources called "very

blunt speaking". It did not, however, amount to a diplomatic protest. Roger Tomkys, deputy under-secretary, told Mr al-Salhi that the statement by the puppet government could be interpreted as a threat to use the foreigners as hostages. He asked for assurances about their safety, but the ambassador only took note and did not reply.

Whitehall sources said it was thought that those rounded up were the 366 passengers from a British Airways aircraft that had stopped at Kuwait on its way from India to Britain when Iraq invaded last Thursday.

The sources confirmed reports that people had been taken from the Airport Hotel and the Scandinavian Airlines Hotel, but their number and nationalities were not known.

The government was handicapped by incomplete information. Diplomats in Kuwait have been unable to check whether British residents are safe at their homes because internal telephones have been out of action for most of the time.

There were unconfirmed reports that Iraq had sent a diplomatic note to Bahrain asking it to seek the withdrawal of all American forces by Thursday.

Paris diverted a frigate from the Mediterranean, ordering her to sail to the Gulf to join two others already there.

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Downward spiral: anxious faces on the floor of the London stock exchange yesterday as the index plunged in reaction to developments in the Gulf

World's shares plunge

By GEORGE SIVELL

WORLD stock markets fell yesterday in response to soaring oil prices. In London the main FT-SE 100 index ended the day 64.4 points down at 2220.2 after an overnight fall of 91.23 to 2859.53 on Japan's Nikkei index.

Wall Street continued the trend falling by 100 points in early dealing and recovering to a final of 91.33 at 2,718.32 by lunchtime in New York.

The dollar, which investors initially saw as a safe haven when Iraq invaded Kuwait, fell yesterday because of concern that the US could be heading for recession.

Sterling benefited, because of the present high interest rates paid to foreign investors, and closed up 2.35 cents at \$1.8795 in London, taking the pound's trade weighted index up 0.2 to 94.4. The dollar closed at an all-time low against the German mark.

North Sea Brent, the most widely traded international crude oil, added 3.50 dollars to \$26.45.

Markets plunge, page 21
Comment, page 23
Stock market, page 24

State of emergency as Bhutto is dismissed

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI AND ZAHID HUSSAIN IN KARACHI

A STATE of emergency was declared in Pakistan late last night after Benazir Bhutto, the prime minister, and her government were dismissed. Miss Bhutto accused President Ghulam Ishaq Khan of carrying out a "constitutional coup d'état" by sacking her and ordering elections on October 24.

Heavily armed troops have been deployed in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi and they are guarding the television station and other important installations. Almost all of Miss Bhutto's opponents have supported the president's action. In Karachi the activists of Mohajir Quomi Movement came out on the streets and celebrated by firing automatic guns.

President Ishaq Khan dismissed and beset with troubles that he was justified in sacking Miss Bhutto, as he has long wanted to do. The only surprise, perhaps, is that he waited so long. Miss Bhutto said the move was illegal and unconstitutional, and might be challenged in court. The 237-member National Assembly was to have been convened tomorrow.

The president has also charged Miss Bhutto with failing to safeguard the life and property of people in Sind province, which is in the grip of serious ethnic conflict. The president spoke of misuse of banks and financial institutions for political patronage by

Continued on page 20, col 2

Short-lived triumph, page 9
Leading article, page 11

Foreigners are seized in Liberia

By ANDREW MC EWEN
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A REBEL leader in Liberia seized about 14 foreigners as hostages yesterday while American marines were evacuating others. The State Department said the foreigners, including one American, were taken from the African Hotel in Monrovia. The Foreign Office said seven Britons were also missing.

Prince Johnson, one of two rebel leaders in Liberia, had threatened to arrest all foreigners. This forced an American evacuation of 72 people yesterday, after 59 on Sunday.

The Foreign Office confirmed that the British ambassador and three colleagues would be flown out within 48 hours.

Envoy to leave, page 9

IRA bomb attack fails in London

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

AN IRA bomb designed to kill Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, the former cabinet secretary, was defused yesterday after the bombers selected the wrong target. The explosive was put under the car of an American businesswoman but fell off as she manoeuvred her vehicle.

The woman backed over the bomb, which would have been primed by a timing device, but disarmed the package as part of a child's toy and drove off. Last night, at Cherry Freeman, aged 48, a computer expert, counted her good fortune. Commander George Churchill-Coleman, head of the anti-terrorist branch, said the bomb showed recklessness and disregard for human life.

Lord Armstrong moved from the address in Woronzow Road, St John's Wood, to his new home in north London, six years ago. The attempt on his life comes one week after Ian Gow, the Conservative MP for Eastbourne, was killed by a car bomb outside his home in Sussex. Both men were on a list of possible targets found in an IRA bomb factory in south London in 1988. The bomb in Woronzow Road did not explode probably because a timing device was not allowed to run its course.

The road, part of an expensive residential area above Regent's Park, includes terraced houses, flats and homes for old people. An explosion there could have caused substantial loss of life at the height of the rush hour. The bomb was placed under the

Continued on page 20, col 7

Man in the news, page 6

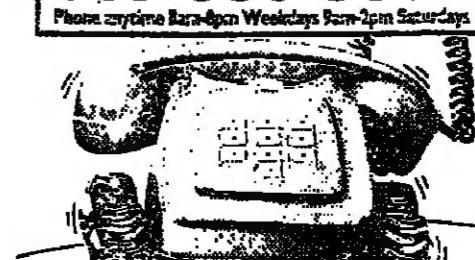
Direct Line has now launched a muscular challenge against the building society dominance of the property insurance market. Aggressively, it is guaranteeing to shave 20 per cent off the costs of the insurance of those who have bought their property in the last five years and have insured it through one of 17 of the top 20 building societies.

The Observer 24th June 1990

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Petrol up to record £2.14

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE price of a gallon of four-star petrol rose to a record £2.14 last night as oil companies reacted swiftly to rapidly increasing costs in volatile world oil markets. The companies have not ruled out further increases may be necessary.

Esso, the market leader which has 2,500 filling stations in Britain, increased its petrol prices by 10.5p a gallon (2.3p a litre) to £2.14 a gallon (47.2p a litre) from midnight and added 13.6p a gallon (3p a litre) to the cost of diesel.

The cost of a gallon of Esso four-star petrol rose to £2.13 (46.9p a litre). However,

the company has not yet made a decision on diesel prices.

The previous highest price for petrol was 204.6p, set in June, 1985. The Automobile Association warned that the increases would put at least £30 on the average annual cost of motoring although industry faced huge bills for increased diesel charges.

Other oil majors, including British Petroleum, are expected to announce similar price rises tomorrow heralding the start of a series of big increases on Britain's forecourts.

Shell, which also has 2,500

forecourts, put up its prices by an average 5.5p a gallon (1.2p a litre), taking the company's four-star price up to £2.10 (46.2p a litre). The cost of Texaco fuel went up by an average 9.5p a gallon (2.1p a litre) at its 1,400 filling stations, taking the cost of a gallon of four-star to about £2.13 (46.9p a litre). However,

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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: SANCTIONS

Security Council poised to impose total ban on trade

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations Security Council was expected yesterday to impose a total trade embargo on Iraq and the Iraqi-installed regime in Kuwait.

The comprehensive package of sanctions would include a ban on buying Iraqi or Kuwaiti oil, selling weapons to the two countries or providing new investment. The proposal would also require Saudi Arabia and Turkey to shut the Iraqi oil pipelines that cross their territories.

But the draft resolution stopped short of ordering

other nations to break diplomatic relations with Iraq.

Western diplomats emerging from a private meeting of the Security Council on Sunday evening said that they expected the council's 15 members to approve the sanctions resolution by an overwhelming majority.

Sir Crispin Tickell, the British representative, said there was strong support, with the exception of one member.

Mr Thomas Pickering, the American representative who has been leading the dip-

lomatic push to have sanctions imposed, said he expected the voting to mirror that last Thursday when the council voted by 14-0 to condemn the Iraqi invasion.

Only Yemen, the sole Arab member of the council, abstained from that vote, saying it had not received instructions from its capital. Diplomats expected Yemen to abstain again yesterday.

If passed, the sanctions resolution would mark only the third time that the Security Council has imposed enforcement measures under chapter seven of the UN Charter, and only the second time it has decreed comprehensive sanctions. The council approved an arms embargo on South Africa, and a full trade ban on Rhodesia.

On two other occasions, the 1948 Arab-Israeli war and the Gulf war in 1987, the council has threatened to take enforcement action to achieve a ceasefire. In neither case was it necessary to adopt a follow-up resolution imposing the threatened sanctions.

The military action taken under the UN flag in the Korean war, passed when the Soviet Union was boycotting the Security Council, did not fall explicitly under the chapter seven provisions.

Article 41 of the UN Charter says: "The Security Council may decide what measures not involving the use of armed force are to be employed to give effect to its decisions, and it may call upon the members of the United Nations to apply such measures."

These may include complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio, and other means of communications, and the severance of diplomatic relations.

If such measures prove inadequate, the Security Council has authority under Article 42 to "take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such action may include blockade, demonstrations and other operations by air, sea or land forces of members of the United Nations."

Security Council resolutions under chapter seven have the force of international law, but the council has no means of enforcing them.

The resolution would ask the secretary-general to report regularly on compliance, and establish a special committee to monitor implementation.

The United Nations' experience with comprehensive sanctions in Rhodesia was not an entirely happy one. Diplomats are confident that Iraq is an easier target.

"Sanctions did eventually work against Rhodesia, but it was a rather long process," one Western diplomat said. "In the case of Iraq you have an economy that is dependent on one major export, oil, and exports via a very limited number of export routes. The task of imposing sanctions should be relatively simple provided all the major countries agree to comply."

9. Decides that notwithstanding paragraphs 4 to 8, nothing in this resolution shall prohibit assistance to the legitimate government of Kuwait, and calls upon all states:

a. to take appropriate measures to protect assets of the legitimate government of Kuwait and its agencies, and

b. not to recognise any regime set up by the occupying power;

10. Requests the secretary-general to report to the council on the progress of the implementation of this resolution, the first report to be submitted within 30 days;

11. Decides to keep this item on its agenda and to continue its efforts to put an early end to the invasion. (Reuters)

Broad economic measures sought

Text of the proposed Security Council resolution circulated by the United States

The Security Council, reaffirming its Resolution 660 (1990), deeply concerned that this resolution has not been implemented and that the aggression by Iraq against Kuwait continues with further loss of human life and material destruction, determined to bring the invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq to an end and to restore the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait, noting that the legitimate Kuwait has expressed its readiness to comply with Resolution 660 (1990), mindful of its responsibilities under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security, affirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence, in response to the armed attack by Iraq against Kuwait, in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

1. Determines that Iraq has failed to comply with operative paragraph 2 of Resolution 660 (1990) and has usurped the authority of the legitimate government of Kuwait;

2. Decides, as a consequence, to take the following measures to secure compliance of Iraq with operative paragraph 2 and to restore the authority of the legitimate government of Kuwait;

3. Decides that all states shall prevent:

a. The import into their territories of all commodities and products originating in Iraq or Kuwait exported therefrom after the date of this resolution;

b. Any activities by their nationals or in their territories which would promote or are calculated to promote the export or transhipment of any commodities or products from Iraq or Kuwait; and any dealings by their nationals or in their territories in any commodities or products originating in Iraq or Kuwait and exported therefrom after the date of this resolution, including in particular any transfer of funds to Iraq or Kuwait for the purpose of such activities or dealings;

c. The sale or supply by their nationals, or from their territories, or using their flag vessels, of any commodities or products, including weapons or any other military equipment, whether or not originating in their territories, but not including supplies intended strictly for medical purposes, and, in special humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs, to any person or body in Iraq or Kuwait or to any person or body for the purposes of any business carried on, in, or operated from Iraq or Kuwait, and any activities by their nationals or in their territories which promote or are calculated to promote such sale, or supply or use of such

commodities or products;

4. Decides that all states shall not make available to the government of Iraq, or to any commercial, industrial or public utility undertaking in Iraq or Kuwait, any funds or any other financial or economic resources and shall prevent their nationals and any persons within their territories from removing from their territories or otherwise making available to that government or to any such undertaking any such funds or resources and from remitting any other funds to persons or bodies within Iraq or Kuwait, except payments exclusively for strictly medical or humanitarian purposes, and, in special humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs;

5. Calls upon all states, including non-members of the United Nations, to act strictly in accordance with the provisions of this resolution, notwithstanding any contract entered into or licence granted before the date of this resolution;

6. Decides to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, a committee of the Security Council consisting of all the members of the council, to undertake the following tasks and to report on its work to the council with its observations and recommendations:

a. To examine the reports on the progress of the implementation of this resolution which will be submitted by the secretary-general;

b. To seek from all states further information regarding the action taken by them concerning the effective implementation of the provisions laid down in this resolution;

7. Calls upon all states to cooperate fully with the committee in the fulfilment of its task, including supplying such information as may be sought by the committee in pursuance of this resolution;

8. Requests the secretary-general to provide all necessary assistance to the committee and to make the necessary arrangements in the secretariat for the purpose;

9. Decides that notwithstanding paragraphs 4 to 8, nothing in this resolution shall prohibit assistance to the legitimate government of Kuwait, and calls upon all states:

a. to take appropriate measures to protect assets of the legitimate government of Kuwait and its agencies, and

b. not to recognise any regime set up by the occupying power;

10. Requests the secretary-general to report to the council on the progress of the implementation of this resolution, the first report to be submitted within 30 days;

11. Decides to keep this item on its agenda and to continue its efforts to put an early end to the invasion. (Reuters)

Nations take action against Iraq

By REUTER AND ASSOCIATED PRESS

As the United Nations Security Council prepared to impose sanctions against Iraq, countries throughout the world were also taking action.

Australia imposed a range of economic sanctions against Iraq, covering an embargo on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait, and banning the sale of engine components to the Iraqi air force.

Australia would ensure Kuwaiti assets in Australia would be available only to the "legitimate" government of Kuwait, a government spokesman said.

"The Iraqi invasion was a gross and indefensible violation of the United Nations charter and posed a most serious threat to the stability of the Middle East," said Michael Duffy, the attorney-

general and acting foreign minister, announcing the sanctions.

The government of The Netherlands will impose an embargo on oil shipments from Iraq and Kuwait and freeze all assets of both countries in the country in line with a European Community resolution.

"We are going along with the EC decision. There are still some practical measures to be taken, but the ministry of finance is taking those measures today," Robert van Lanschot, the foreign ministry spokesman, said.

Hong Kong "would most probably follow the United Nations' lead in freezing Kuwaiti assets," a government spokesman said.

The British colony, which

prides itself on its laissez-faire approach to business, has never frozen assets belonging to a foreign power before and has no laws to govern such a move, the spokesman said in a statement.

Switzerland is considering the unprecedented step of joining international economic sanctions against Iraq.

"We are still analysing the situation, but our options are still open.

"It is possible that sanctions could be imposed," an unidentified spokesman said.

Switzerland is not even a member of the United Nations.

The spokesman said that should it join the sanctions it would be the first time in modern history that the country had used economic pres-

sure to underline its foreign policy. Colonel Gadhafi, the leader of Libya, conferred with King Hussein of Jordan about developments in the Gulf.

But the report by the official Libyan news agency Jana did not say what the two leaders said in their telephone conversation nor when it took place.

Oil firms in Norway, which are closing many of their North Sea platforms for routine summer maintenance work, said they were unable to raise output to make up for the shortfall in oil caused by the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq.

"We have no possibilities at such short notice to increase production," Arild Steine, a spokesman for Norway's government oil firm, said.

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ADRIAN BROOKS



A Kuwaiti boy in military uniform shouting his defiance of Saddam Hussein during a protest march which started at the Kuwaiti embassy in London yesterday

French fears underlined by envoy's warning

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

AN EXPLICIT warning by the Iraqi ambassador in Paris about the economic consequences of UN sanctions against Iraq has underlined fears here about the status of the massive debts Iraq has incurred in France since the earliest phase of the Gulf war. By some estimates, these could now total as much as 40 billion francs (about £4 billion), a figure reflecting the central role France had eagerly assumed as one of Saddam's major partners, before, during and after that conflict.

The present crisis has already derailed urgent attempts by the French government to recoup the estimated 20 billion francs Iraq owes for arms purchases during the fighting. An agreement to reschedule

those debts was due to be signed on the very day that President Saddam Hussein's tanks rolled into Kuwait, while the French companies that won important contracts earlier this year will now be looking nervously at these commitments.

The unconcealed enthusiasm with which the French government and private industry embraced the Saddam regime was sharply criticised yesterday by the former head of the country's external intelligence service, the DGSE, Pierre Marion. He said the failure to accept during the Gulf war that Baghdad was bent on "expansion and hegemony" has been compounded by subsequent efforts to make Iraq the pivot of French commercial policy in the Middle East.

"When I was in charge, we believed that Iraq was in the process of becoming an important and dangerous military power," Mr Marion told *Le Figaro*. "The material we were supplying to the war with Iran was destined to reinforce the menacing posture he would subsequently adopt..."

The Iraqi ambassador was anxious to ensure France had received his uncompromising message loud and clear. "If certain governments continue to believe that the old regime in Kuwait can be brought back into power... they should abandon any such illusions, because the old regime of the al-Sabah family is finished and Kuwait now has a new government."

He claimed that the Iraqi forces did not control all of Kuwait but declined to say precisely what they did not control. He agreed that military action against the Iraqis might result in many deaths but said the people were ready to make such sacrifices.

"We believe that it will make Greece more intransigent and negotiations and compromises more difficult," Turkish defence minister Safa Giray told *The Times* in a recent interview.

The position of Turkey in NATO appeared to be losing significance with the London declaration stating the Soviet Union was no longer considered an enemy. American military aid to Turkey, the third-largest recipient, totals \$498 million this year but is being reduced.

But observers here consider Iraq's actions may bring home to the West the strategic importance of Turkey. As for

Baghdad cuts off oil pipeline into Turkey

FROM AMELIA FRENCH IN ISTANBUL

IRAQ shut off the smaller of two pipelines that transport crude oil to Turkey at 0400 local time yesterday. The second pipeline was reduced to 70 per cent capacity and the flow is expected to be further reduced within the next two days.

Okay Vural, general manager of Botaş, the state-run company that transports the oil from Iraq to Turkey, said he had not been informed how long the reduction would last or the reason for it, although he said it was probably because of difficulties Iraq will face in selling its oil because of the international embargo.

The pipeline carries 1.6 million barrels a day, about half of Iraq's oil exports, to the Mediterranean Turkish coast.

Mr Vural said the reduction of the oil flow from Iraq would probably halve the revenue Turkey receives from transporting the crude oil.

The decision to cut the supply came as Turkey was facing increased pressure from the United States to shut off the pipeline. James Baker, the United States secretary of state, is to make an emergency visit to Turkey tomorrow, apparently as a result of an Iraqi official's announcement on Sunday that he had persuaded Turkey's President Ozal to remain neutral in the Iraqi conflict.

President Bush was in regular telephone contact with Mr Ozal over the weekend to persuade Ankara to join the West in its sweeping economic and military sanctions. At the same time, President Saddam Hussein issued aggressive warnings of retaliatory action if Ankara bowed to American pressure.

President Saddam's awareness of Turkey's delicate position was clearly demonstrated when he sent a message to Mr Ozal on Sunday, via his second in command, Taha Yassin Ramazan, in an attempt to muster assurances from Ankara that they would not respond to an embargo.

Turkey is also clearly anxious not to upset its allies in NATO or the European Community, which it wishes to join.

Iraqi-Turkish relations have never been easy, and the difficulties have been highlighted recently by the nearly completed Ataturk on the Euphrates river. Iraq has been demanding 700 cubic metres of water a second from the river while Turkey insists it will give only 500.

But Iraq and Turkey rely heavily on each other for trade. Turkey supplied Iraq with arms during its eight-year war with Iran and Iraq supplies Turkey with about 60 per cent of its oil.

In the past Turkey has taken care not to offend Iraq and ran into diplomatic difficulties recently when part of what was believed to be the supergun was seized in Istanbul and flown back to Britain.

Ankara is still indignant about America's recent signing of a defence co-operation agreement with Greece that Turkey considers to be directed against itself. Despite reassurances from Richard Cheney, the US Defence Secretary, during a visit to Ankara last month, Turkish feathers remain ruffled.

"We believe that it will make Greece more intransigent and negotiations and compromises more difficult," Turkish defence minister Safa Giray told *The Times* in a recent interview.

The position of Turkey in NATO appeared to be losing significance with the London declaration stating the Soviet Union was no longer considered an enemy. American military aid to Turkey, the third-largest recipient, totals \$498 million this year but is being reduced.

But observers here consider Iraq's actions may bring home to the West the strategic importance of Turkey. As for

the European Community, its indefinite postponement last January of the decision on Ankara's application left Turkey feeling alienated.

• LONDON: Iraq exports oil to the West through two pipelines that cross neighbouring countries, and through the export terminal of Mina Bakr on the Iraqi coast (Martin Barrow writes).

The pipeline closed down yesterday by Iraq consists of twin pipes that run from Baqir, northwest of Baghdad, and wind through Turkey to the Mediterranean.

Turkey does not produce enough oil to be a significant net exporter and does not use the pipeline.

The single most important export route is the Mina Bakr terminal in the Gulf, which was heavily damaged during the war with Iran but has been repaired and has been handling about three million barrels a day since the beginning of this year. The Banias pipeline from Iraq to the Mediterranean through Syria and Lebanon was closed in 1982 because of the civil war in Lebanon, but could be reopened at short notice.

Blockade solution proposed by Owen

By ANDREW MC EWEN

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bush orders CIA to plot the downfall of Saddam

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush has ordered American intelligence agencies to devise plans to destabilise and ultimately topple President Saddam Hussein of Iraq using both overt and covert means, according to reports here yesterday.

He issued the order after being told in briefings by William Webster, the CIA director, that President Saddam posed a threat to vital US interests that extended well beyond the immediate Kuwaiti crisis. *The Washington Post* said.

The CIA's evaluation is that backed by Kuwait's oil reserves and determined to make his country an Arab superpower, the ruthless Iraqi leader would become a powerful intimidating force within Opec, driving up oil prices, precipitating recession in the United States and worsening its already serious fiscal problems.

Mr Bush, himself a former CIA director, is said to have ruled out assassinating President Saddam, but to have asked for the broadest set of options for getting rid of a man who could threaten his very presidency. Those op-

tions would include undermining the Iraqi economy in every way possible, fomenting discontent within the Iraqi armed forces, and supporting internal and external resistance to President Saddam. The CIA refused to comment yesterday.

The presidential order comes as the administration, the Pentagon and the CIA engage in a welter of mutual recrimination over one of the biggest intelligence failures in years. The Iraqi invasion last Wednesday night caught the administration so off-guard that the American ambassador to Baghdad had left for London on holiday. Brent Scowcroft, the national security adviser, was at home, having taken a rare evening off, and Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, was preparing to fly to Aspen, Colorado, with Mr Bush. The row in the United States has been matched by similar criticism in London after the British ambassador to Baghdad, Mr Harold Walker, went on holiday shortly before the invasion.

Pentagon officials have anonymously told American journalists that the CIA intelligence was woefully inadequate. The CIA mounted an unusual public defence of its performance, insisting it provided policy-makers with "very useful and timely information" and implying that administration officials misinterpreted its reports and failed to act on them.

The truth appears to lie somewhere in between. According to State Department officials, the CIA accurately reported the build-up of forces on the Kuwaiti border in the days before the invasion, but at first took the view that President Saddam was sabre-rattling before an Opec meeting where he wanted oil production cut to force up prices.

By the weekend, according to administration officials, the CIA was giving warning of a possible Iraqi attack if the oil demands were not met, but apparently suggested the attack might be directed against specific oilfields or contested islands rather than the entire country.

"I think the intelligence community believed it likely the Iraqis would advance to the oilfields and seize some territories that were previously disputed," said Robert Torricelli, a Democratic congressman who was briefed on the day of the invasion. "It also appears to me the administration further interpreted, further refined" the seriousness of the imminent attack.

Certainly the administration had long been guilty of wishful thinking about Iraq. Just a day before the invasion, John Kelly, the assistant secretary of state, told the House foreign affairs committee that the administration opposed congressional moves to impose sanctions on Baghdad, while the White House insisted that sanctions would damage its hopes of influencing events in Iraq.

The CIA will be more determined than ever to evade blame as the invasion came in a corner. They have found the reaction right across the world goes beyond what they expected."

Asked whether any British forces in the area would be involved, Mr Hurd said that point had not been reached. But two frigates from outside the Gulf had been moved and were steaming towards it. "They will be available if, as an international and collective effort, that kind of policing is thought to be necessary."

Questioned about the threat of Iraqi retaliation, he said: "They are getting into a corner. I think they have found the reaction right across the world goes beyond what they expected."

• LONDON: Kuwaiti nationals can stay in Britain for an extra six months if they do not want to return home when their immigration visas expire (John O'Leary writes). The Home Office has promised to look sympathetically at requests from up to 2,000 Kuwaitis, about 600 of them students. Similar extensions were granted to Chinese nationals after the Tiananmen Square massacre last year.

Britain ready to police embargo

By PHILIP WEBSTER

CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH warships will be ready to help to police an international trade embargo against Iraq, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said yesterday.

He said Iraq had "got into a corner" by provoking a far stronger international reaction to its invasion of Kuwait than it had anticipated. But he was not optimistic of an early or easy outcome.

The foreign secretary is expected to have an early meeting today with the prime minister, who was flying back through the night from the United States. He said that if Iraq used foreign residents as bargaining counters this could not deter Britain and the rest of the international community from taking steps quickly and effectively to deal with an open act of aggression.

A full trade embargo would have to be policed. That would be the responsibility of all the major powers, he said in an interview on *The World at One* on BBC Radio 4.

Asked whether any British forces in the area would be involved, Mr Hurd said that point had not been reached. But two frigates from outside the Gulf had been moved and were steaming towards it. "They will be available if, as an international and collective effort, that kind of policing is thought to be necessary."

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Dreams of empires past led a pressured Saddam to act

From AMATZIA BARAM

IN HAIFA

WHEN President Saddam Hussein ordered his armoured columns to cross into Kuwait, he fulfilled a long-held ambition among Iraqi nationalists who have coveted their tiny neighbour ever since the days of the Ottoman empire.

Even in the 1930s, King Ghazi of Iraq, would make nightly radio broadcasts on his private station calling on Kuwaitis to join the "Iraqi family".

At that time the monarchy was in no position to challenge Britain's military dominance in the Gulf. This time, however, a combination of domestic, regional and international changes combined to provide President Saddam with his opportunity to strike.

One obvious change is the disappearance of Iran as a local superpower. Iraq was eager to present the region with the *fait accompli* of a new strategic acquisition before Iran rebuilds its armed forces and before it repairs its fences with

the Gulf Arabs. Another change is the metamorphosis of East-West relations; President Saddam correctly assessed that the two superpowers no longer regard every regional conflict as an aggressive move on the part of the opposite side, and thus that the danger of such a conflict becoming an East-West clash point has greatly diminished. At the same time, however, it appears that he underestimated the new potential for American-Soviet co-operation against aggression by local powers.

But there were other developments of no less significance and more immediate inside Iraq which may explain the Iraqi invasion. At the end of the Gulf war the Iraqi public was encouraged by the Baath regime itself to expect an early and meaningful improvement in their standard of living, an early return of prisoners of war and a peace agreement with Iran that would be dictated from a position of strength and enable Iraq to release much of its 1.25 million-strong army. None of these happened.

Indeed, the economic strife in Iraq reached such proportions that to let some steam off the president allowed the press to publish the public's complaints. At that time the monarchy was in no position to challenge Britain's military dominance in the Gulf. This time, however, a combination of domestic, regional and international changes combined to provide President Saddam with his opportunity to strike.

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most importantly, the economic situation even deteriorated. Iraq owes non-Arab countries and banks some \$40 billion (£25 billion). Unable to repay, Iraq has continuously worked to reschedule its debts with the result that most banks have been reluctant to agree to new loans. In 1990 Iraq expected to receive between \$18-22 billion in oil revenues, after it received only about \$14 billion in 1989. These expectations were shattered when oil prices fell in the spring of 1990. Under the new circumstances Iraq could not hope for higher revenues in 1990 than it had received in the previous year. Bearing in mind that their debt service amounts to \$3.5 billion a year and that military imports amount to at least \$3.5 billion annually, by late June of this year it became clear that for all civilian imports Iraq could expect to earn no more than \$7 billion.

Indeed, the economic strife in Iraq reached such proportions that to let some steam off the president allowed the press to publish the public's complaints.

These, muffled as they naturally are under such a regime, reflect deep frustration. There is chronic shortage of basic foodstuffs, but a thriving black market; inflation of at least 25 per cent; a crumbling infrastructure; and widespread corruption.

One of the ways with which the regime has treated complaints regarding economic hardships throughout the war and following the ceasefire has been to blame it on the rich Gulf Arab states. Iraq, the regime's media has been arguing, in its capacity as "the guardian of the eastern flank of the Arab homeland", was fighting the Iranians in defence not only of itself but also of the whole Arab nation. Consequently, all the Arabs should support Iraq in its battle against the "foreign enemy" — if not with troops, then at least with generous economic aid. The Gulf Arabs, the Iraqi media charged, have shown gross ingratitude by giving Iraq only meagre support.

When it became clear that the oil overproduction of Kuwait and the

United Arab Emirates substantially reduced Iraq's oil revenues this resentment against the Gulf Arabs, fanned by the regime, created in turn great domestic pressure to punish the ungrateful "offenders" and particularly the Kuwaiti ruling family, whom some Iraqis still see as usurpers.

President Saddam felt under pressure from another quarter. His relations with his army officers have always been problematic (although a field marshal he has never served in the army and his main powerbase is civilian internal security organisations). Had he been able at the end of the war to translate Iraq's tremendous military might into strategic assets his prestige with the army would have been secured. Indeed this is precisely where the Iraqi president's main weakness lies. He announced victory over Iran, he declared that his chemical warheads won him strategic parity with Israel, and his media portrayed him as the unchallenged leader of the Arab world, a befitting heir

to Nasser. Yet he was unable to translate all this into tangible political, strategic and economic assets.

This dissonance between self-image or projected image, and real political clout was agonising and humiliating enough to Baathist Iraq in general and President Saddam in particular when Iraq realised that it was unable to impose peace on Iran, or to dislodge powerful Syria from Lebanon. It was unacceptable when it came to a tiny neighbour rejecting almost all Iraq's demands.

Through the invasion of tiny Kuwait President Saddam not only occupied a valuable asset but also demonstrated to all his weaker neighbours his might and his resolve to turn Iraq at least into the hegemonic power in his own part of the Arab world, that is in the Gulf. This, at what he believed to be an acceptable Arab and international cost.

Dr Amatzia Baram is a lecturer in Middle East history at the University of Haifa

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: IRAQ ENCIRCLED



Westerners held 'to deter attack on Iraq'

From JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN DUBAI

TESTIMONIES from foreigners fleeing from Iraq-occupied Kuwait yesterday appeared to confirm that President Saddam Hussein is holding scores of Westerners captive to deter an American attack on Baghdad.

A Swedish woman who escaped to Saudi Arabia with her husband and two children said she saw Iraqi troops at the border turning back an American and a Canadian trying to leave Kuwait on Sunday.

"I am not sure what happened to them," Helena Wiberg said in a telephone interview from her hotel in Bahrain last night. "The Iraqi soldiers at the border seemed only interested in checking the nationalities of those trying to leave Kuwait. They only looked at the cover of the passports. I do not know why they let us cross," she said.

Mrs Wiberg said she and her family reached Saudi Arabia by car after crossing the no man's land between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. "We were so relieved when we saw the Saudis," she said.

British, American and West German officials have said that nationals of their countries working in Kuwait were rounded up by Iraqi troops and driven in buses to Bagdad immediately after last week's invasion. Last night a source said that 11 Americans working at the Rumaila oil field are being held at the Rashid Hotel in Baghdad. The hotel was not answering telephone calls yesterday evening.

The Philippines embassy in Baghdad, was said to have reported to Manila that the Iraqis had captured an unspecified number of British, American, Canadian, and Indian

Gulf said the Americans are trying to convince King Fahd that now is the best time to take action against President Saddam. Mr Cheney is said to have told the kingdom not to feel defenceless or intimidated by Iraqi threats.

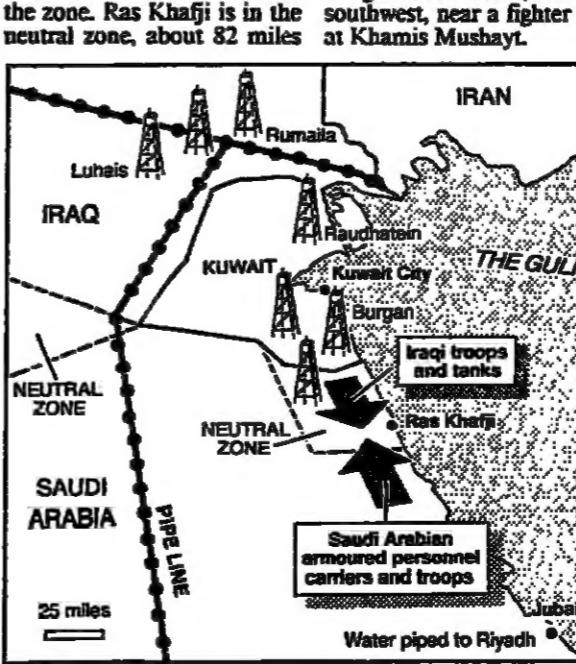
Reports from Iraq said that Baghdad had made the symbolic gesture of pulling out a token force of the invading army from Kuwait. Baghdad-based journalists were taken to Safwan in the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border to watch tanks, rocket launchers and armoured personnel carriers returning to Iraq. If the exercise was intended to give credibility to President Saddam's promises, it evidently failed to convince Western governments or even Iraq's closest neighbours.

Kuwait city was reported quiet yesterday, an indication that the 130,000-strong invading force has crushed the scattered pockets of Kuwaiti resistance.

The last clash was reported by a correspondent of the New China News Agency in Kuwait city, who said that he had not heard gunfire since Sunday.

Manager trapped: Eddie Firmani, the former manager of Charlton Athletic and Italian international forward, is among the Westerners trapped in Kuwait (Dennis Signs writes).

Firmani, aged 57 today, flew to Kuwait last week to take up a new appointment as coach to the Khetan club. He arrived five hours before the airport invasion and his wife Shirley, who teaches in Kuwait and was due to follow him, has not been heard from since. Their flat is 100 yards from the beach where the Iraqi tanks are parked.



Saudi forces moved to Kuwait border

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SAUDI Arabia yesterday continued to prepare itself for a possible Iraqi assault across its borders, following signs of an increasing build-up of troops and tanks not far from the frontier. There were reports that all the main bases were on a heightened state of alert.

Saudi troops packed into personnel carriers were reported to be moving to the Ras al-Khafji region, near the Kuwaiti border, from Dhahran, Saudi Arabia's main oil port. Iraqi troops and tanks were also heading for the Ras al-Khafji area.

Saudi Arabia's border with Kuwait runs through the so-called neutral zone. Under a 1988 agreement, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait divided the area, drawing their border through it, and agreed to share the revenues from an oil field in the neutral zone, Ras al-Khafji, in the northeast, about 80 miles from where the Saudi, Kuwaiti and Iraqi borders meet.

The other two military cities are King Faisal, near Tabuk, in the northwest, and King Abdul Aziz, in the southwest, near a fighter base at Khamis Mushayt.

The King Khalid complex lies off a main north-south road. It is about 35 miles in circumference and has a population of several thousand people, mostly Saudi military. About 80 American civilian technicians are normally based there, as well as 30 to 40 US military personnel training Saudi pilots to fly Blackhawk helicopters. There is also a contingent of French missile technicians.

Saudi Arabia also has a new military complex at Hafar al-Batin, about 40 miles from the Iraqi border and 50 miles from the Kuwaiti border. There is an airbase, but it is dominated by the army, although there is not sufficient motorised armour units to hold back Iraqi divisions.

Two other military complexes are the garrison at Riyadh, where the Royal Guard regiment is based, and a small desert garrison at Sharqat in the south. The main air bases are at Tabuk, Riyadh, Dhahran and Khamis Mushayt, with a transport base at Taif.

A former US commander in the Gulf said the deployed Saudi tanks were probably drawn from a rapid deployment force maintained at the King Khalid complex by the six member countries of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

George Crist, a retired Marine Corps general who formerly headed US Central Command, the overall headquarters for American forces in the region, said he believed the Gulf Co-operation Council force would have been ordered into the field. The unit includes two brigades, each with about 5,000 men and 100 or more US-built M1 and M48 tanks.

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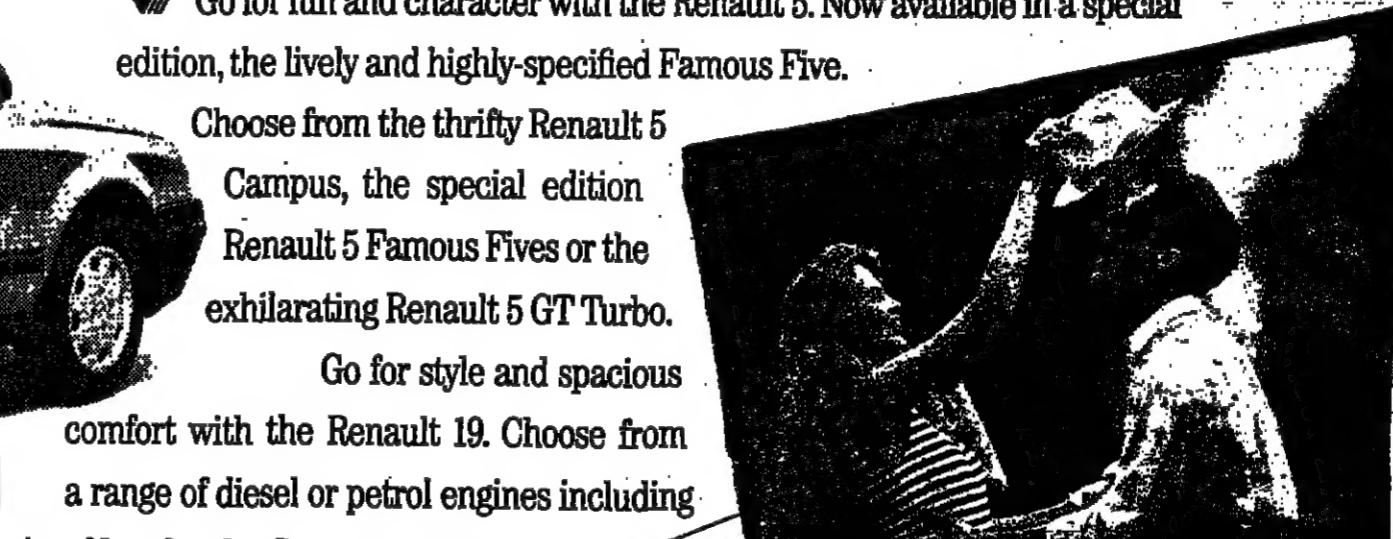
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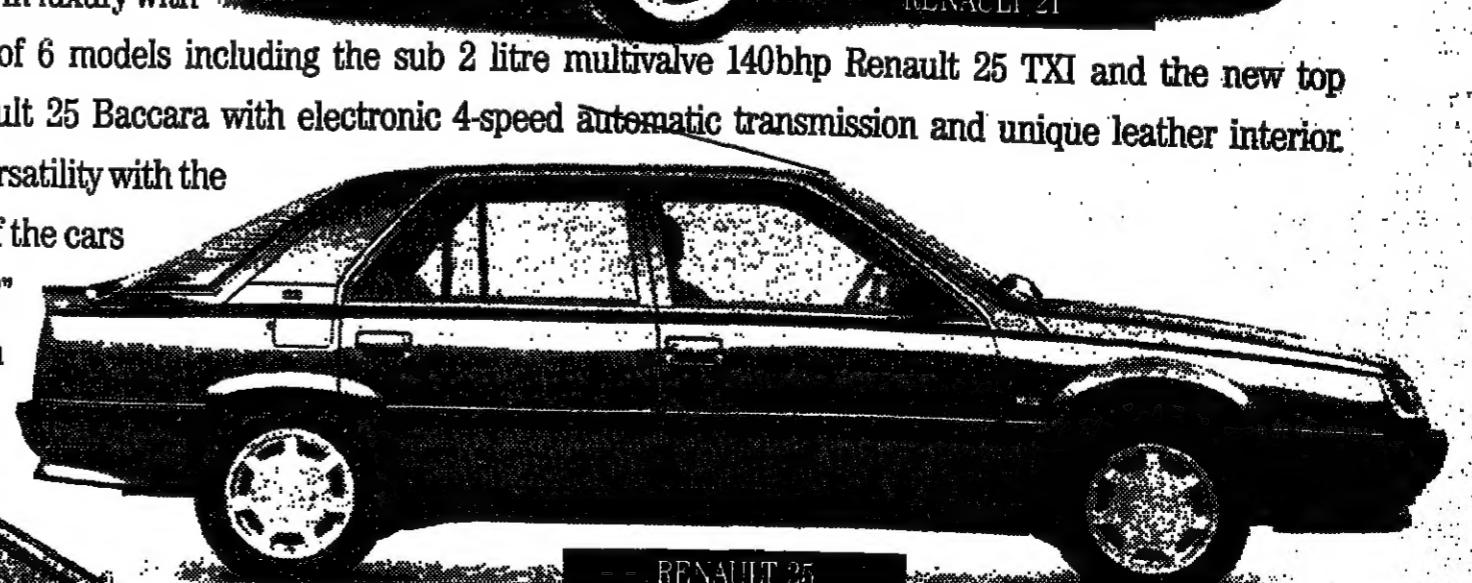
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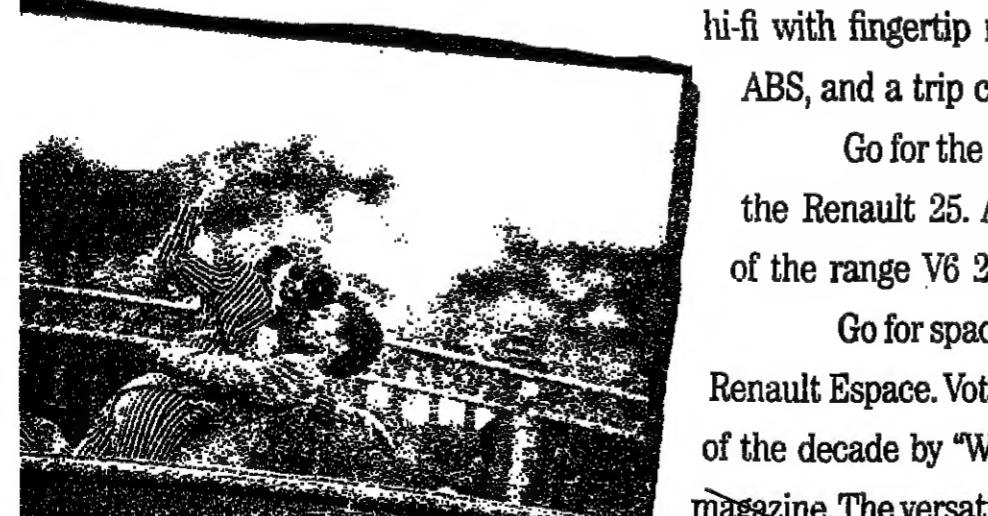
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Council faces Patten clash after defying tax target

By PETER DAVENPORT

DONCASTER council, one of the local authorities to loss a legal battle with the environment secretary over poll tax capping, faces another confrontation with the government after setting a revised charge yesterday.

The Labour-controlled council voted to set a new figure of £298.85, almost £36 lower than its previous level but still £17 above the target set by Chris Patten, the environment secretary. Officials said that the figure was necessary to break even on council finances this year. They said that the authority had been prevented from

War of words over local taxation

By JOHN WINDER

TWO more salvos in the battle over the most acceptable form of local taxation were fired yesterday. Chris Patten, the environment secretary, accused Labour of dishonesty over its plan for a revision to a rating system, while Bryan Gould, his Labour shadow, retorted that Mr Patten had been reduced to telling lies.

The environment secretary, who has now read the policy document Labour published last month, has sent a three-page letter to Neil Kinnock in which he has asked several questions and contrasted the party's proposals with the Labour leader's condemnation of the rating system a decade ago. Mr Patten wrote: "Isn't it thoroughly dishonest to remove restraints on local spending, let off millions from paying for that spending and then claim that the vast majority will be better off?"

The minister suggested that "fair rates" was a contradiction in terms and he asked Mr Kinnock for details of the independent research which Labour claims shows that 70 per cent of people would be better off under its proposals.

"Your proposal to scrap the community charge in favour of a discredited domestic rating system shows just how far your party is from being ready for office," he said.

Mr Gould's reply was brief. Mr Patten is being cavalier about Labour's fair rates proposal and he pointed out that the secretary of state had said that the poll tax would be fair and simple, and that bills would be £35 lower than they had been set. "Mr Patten is reduced to telling lies about Labour's fair rates policy because he cannot face the unpalatable truth about the poll tax."

John Cunningham, the Labour environment spokesman, has written to Kenneth Baker, the Conservative party chairman, complaining that leaflets detailing the government's views on the environment are to be circulated at public expense. "These publications are a squall of abuse of taxpayers' money to promote Tory party propaganda."

Cooler day fails to put end to fire risk

By RAY CLANCY

WELCOME breezes kept most of Britain cool yesterday, but firefighters said that much of the country's grassland is still tinder dry with a high risk of major blazes.

During the past few days, fire brigades have dealt with the most grass fires since the hot summer of 1976.

An investigation is under way into the death of a firefighter fighting a blaze in a field near Ashford, Kent, on Sunday. Neville Stocker, aged 55, of Ashford, died when engulfed by fast-moving flames and smoke. An inquest is to be held.

Some paths in the Yorkshire moors have been closed due to the fire risk. North Yorkshire Fire Brigade yesterday warned visitors to be vigilant. A spokesman said: "We ask people to be careful with cigarettes or matches. Even a piece of broken glass left lying can start a fire."

London Fire Brigade has received twice the usual number of calls in the past few days, and in Surrey about half the calls have been to grass fires. A fire at Ash Vale, Surrey, was being brought under control by about 40 firemen last night.

Weatherman said that there was no sign of rain over southern England, Wales and the Midlands to relieve the drought, but that there would be showers in Scotland. A London Weather Centre spokesman said: "Temper-



Under threat: David Thacker, left, artistic director of the Young Vic, and Terry Hawkins, administration director, launching an appeal for £100,000 yesterday

Young Vic appeal seeks £100,000 to halt closure

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Young Vic, one of Britain's most artistically successful fringe theatres, will close in seven weeks if it fails to raise £100,000. The permanent staff of 22 have been given redundancy notices.

David Thacker, artistic director, launching an appeal for the money yesterday, said that the company had a deficit of £220,000, which he blamed on decreasing government subsidies. The theatre's last production would be the current one, Arthur Miller's play, *The Man Who Had Everything*, co-produced with the Bristol Old Vic.

The theatre was created 20 years ago by Lord Olivier and Frank Dunlop out of the National Theatre to attract younger audiences and give young actors experience. The Young Vic's fate will be an early challenge for the new arts minister, David Mellor, it could become the first major theatre to close because of a shortfall in public funding.

Lambeth council, which is giving £49,000 to the theatre this year, will refuse it a theatre licence if safety improvements are not made by October 1.

The Arts Council, which increased its grant to the Young Vic by 7 per cent to £252,000 this year, underlined Mr Thacker's criticism. "This is yet another example of the difficulties which can arise if

the level of arts funding from the government fails to keep pace with inflation and there is no leeway to cope with unforeseen circumstances," the council said.

The company had a turnover of £1 million last year, but had to abandon its education programme and children's performances because of increasing difficulties.

A touring project launched three years ago to take productions to regional audiences was cancelled last year because it lost money instead of raising extra revenue as intended. The last production, Eugene O'Neill's *Anna Christie*, starring Natasha Richardson and directed by Mr Thacker, closed on July 14 having played to 42 per cent houses and leaving a shortfall of £30,000.

A number of recent productions have transferred to the

West End, and the Young Vic's production of the work of Arthur Miller in particular has had critical praise. *The Price* by the American playwright, mounted earlier this year, attracted the theatre's biggest box office ever.

The Young Vic was set up in a building that cost £60,000 and was intended to last for five years. It still occupies the same building, which needs £75,000 spending on it merely to meet local authority safety requirements, in spite of expenditure on a new roof, the installation of a theatre-in-the-round, new heating and ventilation and a new studio theatre.

Sponsorship was difficult to find because the theatre was not ideal for entertaining, Anne Mayer, the publicity director, said. A public meeting is to be held at the theatre at 3pm on Sunday.

Arias to aid sea wall

AN OPERA company has been drafted in to help save a beauty spot from being destroyed by the sea. The London-based Beaufort Company is to stage a series of open air concerts on Brownsea Island, Dorset, to raise money for a new sea wall.

The 500-acre National Trust nature reserve, regarded as the birthplace of British scouting, is at risk of flooding unless £350,000 is raised to repair its crumbling sea defences.

Barry Guest, warden of the reserve, said: "A flood study has shown that if the wall is breached at high tide, the island would be swamped. The existing wall is over 140 years old."

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Childline director calls for commission into child sexual abuse

By LIN JENKINS

A ROYAL commission into child pornography and sexual abuse is urgently needed to prevent their increase after the relaxation of trade barriers in 1992, Valerie Howarth, director of Childline, said yesterday.

She said it was the only way of assessing the extent of the scourge, how offenders could be treated and the way in which paedophiles could be stopped in this country. Miss Howarth told an international conference on incest and related matters at Harrow, northwest London: "In this country our laws are much tighter than anywhere else in Europe."

"Child pornography is nothing more than abuse on film and, as we get towards 1992, we have to look at whether we are going to get a better or a worse system to protect our children."

People convicted of sexually abusing children were at present released from prison "a better abuse than when they went in", she said.

Miss Howarth said that her experience of offenders in Wandsworth jail, southwest London, showed that the system of locking them up together meant that they swapped stories on how to get hold of children. "Paedophiles are clever and sophisticated, and all they do in prison is increase their sophistication."

She said that Childline receives 10,000 calls a day, and that the most common complaint from children was that they were asked to copy acts seen on video. Resources to deal with the problem were still scarce, she said, and medical students, police, social workers and other care service workers were inadequately trained to recognise the symptoms or to deal with them. Miss Howarth's call for a royal commission has

been echoed by Detective Inspector Sylvia Ashton, the West Midlands police force adviser on rape and child sexual abuse.

"It is totally illegal to be in possession of child pornography here. But laws are different elsewhere, and we have to know if these things will be easier to get hold of in 1992," she said.

Miss Ashton added that people in positions of trust were often responsible for child sexual abuse. "If your child says that someone has been taking photographs, then ask questions. This is the starting point of pornography. Don't just ignore what children say." *Nursing Times* is also launching a campaign this week backing the call for a royal commission into the issue.

Delegates told the three-day conference that nobody had examined the effects of 1992 on the issue, and said that the legal age of consent for homosexuals in Europe varied from the age of 14

to 21. Evidence that videos involving child pornography are made in Liechtenstein, where laws are lax, and are freely available in Amsterdam, was presented by Philip Carlo, an American author of a novel about child pornography.

Such material is available under the counter in Amsterdam sex shops, he said, and could be sent by post throughout Europe after ordering by telephone using a credit or charge card, in spite of a Dutch government ban four years ago. Mr Carlo said some of the videos featured English children.

Dr Virginia Klein, the American co-chairman at the conference, called for everyone present to write to the credit card and charge card companies objecting to the service being available for such purposes. Mary Moss, development officer of the National Association of

Young People in Care, said any royal commission would have to look into organised abuse within the care system itself.

She said she had herself been taken into care at 13, and had received no counselling to help her cope with the sexual abuse she had suffered. "The care system is not a fit place to send those who have been sexually abused."

Mrs Moss called for funding to develop a pilot study carried out by the association which had discovered that of 50 children who had approached the organisation, 65 per cent claimed they had been sexually abused while in care. Most were not believed, others felt too frightened to complain and, when they did, the police were rarely involved, she said. Those responsible sometimes resigned or took early retirement, but it was more usual for the child who complained to be removed from the home.

Surveyors to pay £98,000 for wood-rot negligence

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE deathwatch beetle, scourge of old houses, has cost a firm of surveyors more than £98,000 because of its negligence in failing to spot the infestation.

In a High Court judgment published yesterday, Judge Bowsher awarded the damages to Pamela Syrett whose happiness was blighted when her £300,000 country home in Hampshire was found to suffer from serious defects caused by damp and beetle.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the leading professional body, said that this was an unusually high settlement. Many of the 1,400 complaints it received each year were resolved without payment and most of the remaining claims were settled for around £5,000.

The judge said Mrs Syrett had relied on what turned out to be a negligent survey of the listed house, Wootton Old Farm, Wootton, carried out by a local firm, Carr and Neave, and did not discover until two years after moving in that it was infested.

Awarding damages of £98,336 and costs against the firm, of Ringwood, Hampshire, Judge Bowsher, said it was a very bad case of negligence. There were in fact significant defects in the property including a very bad infestation with deathwatch beetle, which is notorious for attacking damp oak, movement in some of the walls and severe damp in some places. The defendants reported some minor problems with damp, but failed to point out the main ones.

Mrs Syrett's damages include £77,997 to repair the property, £8,000 for inconvenience and distress, £6,349 for removal, storage and insurance of furniture during the estimated 18-week repair period, and the £253 paid for the surveyor's report.

Mrs Syrett, who works in the property management business, had in 1986 instructed the surveyors "as a firm recommended as having local expertise" to make a limited survey on Wootton Old Farm before she decided to buy. She accepted the property would need attention and had a £100,000 budget for improvements, but before entering into a contract she wanted to be assured that there were no items of major expenditure that would affect her decision.

Everyone agreed, the judge said, that the property was an exceptionally attractive position on the edge of the New Forest, with two acres of formal garden and another two acres of paddock.

Mrs Syrett, having relied on the survey she received, exchanged contracts in October 1986. "If she had received a

careful rather than a negligent report, she would not have bought this property," Judge Bowsher said. She would have bought a property that would have been worth what she paid for it and would not have required large expenditure in repairs and would have given her much enjoyment already.

The judge said Mrs Syrett had been restrained in describing her distress and inconvenience but it had been "real, substantial and prolonged". She was entitled to damages to compensate her for the blight on her happiness since the discovery of the problems in October 1988.

"The state of the house has been totally disruptive to her family life and has caused her great stress and worry," he said.

She and her husband and their young son will have to move out of the house when the repair work is carried out. All of the damage was a natural and probable consequence of the negligence of the defendants, he added.

During the three-day hearing last month, the firm, which had originally contested liability, admitted they failed adequately to inspect the property and to see the evidence of deathwatch beetle and its effect on the timber in various parts of the house.

Critics say set-aside has failed to curb over-production or to enhance the landscape, while encouraging farmers to maximise returns by cultivating the land still under crops even more intensively. Not everyone agrees with that.

Mr Sheriff is one of 112 farmers taking part in an experiment by the European Community in southeast England which aims to show that set-aside can, at a cost, bring real environmental benefits.

Set-aside, as the scheme is called, was conceived as a way of reducing output and helping farmers to adjust to lower demand. The impact on over-production has been modest.

Judge Bowsher: Critical of negligent report

IN THE boom years of the late 1970s and early 1980s, Bob Sheriff would clear a profit of up to £150 an acre from wheat and oilseed rape on the 1,000 acres he farms around Bayford near Hertford. Now, after five years of EC farm price reduction aimed at bringing production more into line with market demand, he says he would be lucky to make £50 or £60 an acre.

Crude put, that is why Mr Sheriff is one of 3,000 farmers in Britain happy to accept payments totalling £22 million over the past two years to take 272,000 acres out of production. In the world of European agriculture, paying not to grow crops is cheaper than storing or subsidising the export of unwanted produce.

Set-aside, as the scheme is called, was conceived as a way of reducing output and helping farmers to adjust to lower demand. The impact on over-production has been modest.

gaining access to all the documents on the concessions.

The public accounts committee, chaired by Robert Sheldon, MP for Ashton under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, is to delay publishing its report on the Rover sale until armed with fuller information from Mr Bourn.

Lord Young of Graffham, a former trade and industry secretary, and the Inland Revenue, have admitted that there were discussions on BAe's future tax liability before the final terms for the deal were agreed two years ago. They have insisted, however, that it was normal practice.

Sir Anthony Battishill, chairman of the Inland Revenue board, has told MPs that "no improper pressure" was put on officials by ministers.

The trade and industry committee withdrew a report last month and will reopen its enquiry as evidence has come to light that BAe had been promised financial assistance in the future by Lord Young based on the demands placed on the company by the performance and obligations of the

committee on defence. The committee had demanded the appearance of two Downing Street officials but he put himself forward to answer MPs' questions instead.

Lord Macleod, who died in 1988 aged 76, will be unveiled next Tuesday. His widow, the Lexy, aged 79, will not be there, however. "The memories are too painful. He never doubted he would complete the task. The folks of Arnish deserved a road, he believed, and the lack of co-operation from the authorities drove him into action. But he paid dearly for all the toll."

Mr Macleod built the road, in his spare time from lighthouse keeping on the island of Rona, after the local council refused to pay for a road to Arnish because only a handful of people lived there. Now Highland regional council is to give the road its finishing touch, a top surface of tarmac.



Bob Sheriff keeping an eye on part of his land that has been taken out of production under the set-aside scheme

Environment begins to benefit from EC's scheme to set aside farm land

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

In Britain, just over 2 per cent of arable land has been taken out of food growing.

Farmers are paid up to £80 an acre, or £90 for newcomers this year, if they agree to stop growing crops on at least 20 per cent of their arable land for five years and leave it lying fallow, plant it with trees or use it to provide sport and recreational facilities.

Critics say set-aside has failed to curb over-production or to enhance the landscape, while encouraging farmers to maximise returns by cultivating the land still under crops even more intensively. Not everyone agrees with that.

Mr Sheriff is one of 112 farmers taking part in an experiment by the European Community in southeast England which aims to show that set-aside can, at a cost, bring real environmental benefits.

Farmers in the scheme receive premium payments of up to £45 an acre for

creating or restoring wildlife habitats and improving public access to the countryside.

A meadow rich in wild plants and butterflies is coming back to life on an 18-acre field where Mr Sheriff used to grow wheat. Last year he sowed a mix of native grass varieties specified by the commission. He gets further payments for planting wooded strips round the edges of fields and restoring hedgerows.

Where extra financial inducements are not on offer, most set-aside land is allowed to return to nature, which means that agricultural weeds quickly choke off wild flowers, or is sown with a cheap clover-and-rye mix that holds little appeal for wildlife or picnickers. In an attempt to beat the weeds, John Gummer, the agriculture minister, last month changed the set-aside rules to require fallow land to be cut at least twice a year.

Stuart Housden, head of conservation planning at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, believes that set-aside has real environmental potential. "We estimate that about 40 species of birds, including lapwing, stone curlew, grey partridge and others that people are concerned about, are using set-aside land," he says.

He is pleased that Mr Gummer has decided to subsidise limited grazing of set-aside fallow, despite resistance from the National Farmers Union, which fears that livestock farmers in the hills could face unfair competition.

Mr Housden has been heartened by the European Commission's decision to propose grants over 20 years for planting set-aside land with trees or putting it to other uses recognised as having ecological benefits.

"We think this could open the door to the kind of creative conservation we would like to see."

University team to develop cheaper and cleaner power

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A TEAM of senior researchers is being formed at a British university to develop a secret super heat exchanger capable, it is claimed, of boosting significantly the efficiency of coal-fired power stations.

Jim Swithenbank, the chemical engineer leading research at Sheffield University, says the device, which will harness latest developments in new materials and fuel technology, could be fitted to new and existing stations.

He estimates that the super heat exchanger could improve the efficiency of electricity generation from coal by as much as a quarter, cutting United Kingdom emissions of carbon dioxide, the principal gas linked with global warming, by 50,000 tonnes annually.

If adopted across Europe the device could save an annual £24 billion in energy bills while cutting carbon dioxide emissions by 500,000 tonnes.

Professor Swithenbank expects the device, which is in the design stage, to play a key role in ensuring efforts by the industrialised nations to curb greenhouse gas emissions are not undermined by emerging third world countries such as India.

Burning coal in conventional power stations is between 33 per cent and 35 per cent efficient because, although the fuel's flames reach temperatures of around 2,000C, boiler temperatures reach only about 560C. The new heat exchanger, Professor Swithenbank believes, could almost double the boiler temperatures. A 10-year development programme is planned for the heat exchanger but this could be accelerated in the wake of the Gulf crisis.

Two die in attack by gunman

A man shot dead his former girlfriend and wounded her common law husband after smashing his way into her home with a sledgehammer, police disclosed yesterday (Mark Souster, writes). He then turned the gun on himself.

Paul Powell, aged 39, broke into the house in Walsall, west Midlands, and opened fire on John Burns, aged 26, wounding him in the shoulder. He then chased Margaret Mills, aged 33, out of the house and shot her in the head at point blank range after she tripped and fell.

Seconds later Powell shot himself in the neck and died instantly. The couple's son, Thomas, aged three, whom Mr Burns was carrying when shot, was unharmed.

£167,000 theft

A former political agent for Ian Gow, the MP murdered by the IRA, was jailed for three years at Truro Crown Court yesterday, for stealing £167,590 from a Falmouth firm where he was financial controller. Clifford Porter, aged 50, of Camborne, Cornwall, used some of the money to pay his son's school fees.

Demand for new homes in the Lake District was outstripping supply, he said.

The Friends of the Lake District yesterday took up the issue of affordable homes for local people in the group's magazine, *Conserving Lakeland*. New housing catered for the wealthy, it said, local authority housing was subject to right-to-buy legislation and little, if any, new housing was built to let.

Average rural earnings legally allowed a maximum mortgage of about £30,000, far too little for supposedly low-cost housing, although "Homes for locals" had been a persuasive claim by builders seeking planning consent.

Man in the News

Adviser to Thatcher was likely target

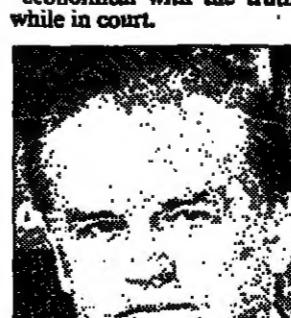
By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AS CABINET secretary for the first eight years of Margaret Thatcher's premiership, Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, aged 63, was one of her key advisers and is credited by politicians as being one of the architects of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

The cairn, to commemorate Lord Macleod, who died in 1988 aged 76, will be unveiled next Tuesday. His widow, the Lexy, aged 79, will not be there, however. "The memories are too painful. He never doubted he would complete the task. The folks of Arnish deserved a road, he believed, and the lack of co-operation from the authorities drove him into action. But he paid dearly for all the toll."

The IRA is likely to have picked Lord Armstrong as a target because of his past involvement in government policy relating to both parts of Ireland and because of his close association with Margaret Thatcher. He came to wider public attention when he helped to defuse the Westland dispute and appeared before the Commons select committee on defence. The committee had demanded the appearance of two Downing Street officials but he put himself forward to answer MPs' questions instead.

Three years ago he went to Australia to put the government's case for a ban on the publication of *Spycatcher* and found himself in the headlines when he used the phrase "economical with the truth" while in court.



Lord Armstrong: credited with Anglo-Irish talks

Czechs send MiG as gift for Battle of Britain fund auction

By JOHN SHAW

IN A remarkable gesture of friendship, the Czech government has given the RAF Benevolent Fund a fully equipped MiG fighter for its Battle of Britain auction on September 13.

The gift has been made through the National Airforce Museum in Prague in memory of the 87 Czech pilots who flew with the RAF during the second world war. A number were killed in action during the battle 50 years ago.

The aircraft, an historic MiG-21PF Fishbed-D, is expected to arrive in a fortnight. It is in full

flying order, will be auctioned complete with essential equipment and is estimated to make about £50,000.

It is one of two aircraft in the sale staged by Phillips at Bentley Priory, the former headquarters of fighter command at Stanmore, west London. The other is a 1911 Blériot. The sale proceeds will go towards the fund's £20 million appeal to care for former RAF personnel.

The unusual gift follows an approach by Air Marshal Sir Denis Crowley-Milling, chairman of the auction and a former Battle of Britain pilot, who wrote some time ago to the Czech, Polish and

Hungarian authorities. Bob Moffat, spokesman for the fund, said: "The Czechs have been exceptionally generous and the Poles have sent a lot of things from their war museum. The boxes have just arrived in fact and we don't know what is inside. We are very hopeful there will be a contribution from the Hungarians." The MiG was first shown to the public in June 1956 and served with several air forces outside the Eastern bloc. It was used extensively during the Vietnam War and more versions were built than any other MiG fighter since the end of the second world war.

Two days after the sale Sotheby's will be staging a similar auction at the RAF Museum, Hendon, north London. The beneficiaries will include the museum, the

The Guinness case

No evidence to link Lyons with a conspiracy, court is told

THERE was not a shred of evidence that the financier Sir Jack Lyons had been part of a conspiracy in the Guinness scandal, Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Robert Harman, QC, representing Sir Jack, said that the prosecution had been "trigger-happy" in its allegations against the financier and fanciful in many of its suggestions. His client and Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief, were alleged to have taken part in a conspiracy during the company's takeover of Distillers in 1986.

He said the prosecution claimed that the two men had tried to induce Distillers' shareholders to swap their shares for Guinness's by dishonestly concealing the fact that an Austrian bank had been offered indemnities against losses

in share dealings. In other words, Sir Jack had been part of a secret agreement to "offer indemnities, when he got the chance, to supporters he might recruit on the way". There was, however, not a shred of evidence to support that, Mr Harman said.

Sir Jack, aged 74, Mr Saunders, 55, Gerald Ronson, 50, head of Heron International, and Anthony Parnes, 43, a stockbroker, variously deny 22 charges, including theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

It is alleged that they took part in an unlawful share support operation during Guinness's £2.7 billion takeover of the Scottish drinks group in which illegal payments of £25 million were made by Guinness after £40 million worth of its shares were bought on the basis of success fees and indemnities.

The prosecution has alleged that Sir Jack received more than £3 million in illegal payments for his part in the support operation.

In his final speech on the 101st day of the trial, Mr Harman said that "behind a bland exterior there has been at times a trigger-happy prosecution. I hope to satisfy that suggestions have been made against Sir Jack Lyons which in many instances have been shown to be demonstrably fanciful."

There were alternative interpretations for events which were "staring us in the eyes". Mr Harman said that the prosecution was wrong to claim that a lunch Sir Jack had had with the representative of an Austrian bank was an occasion where he tried to recruit the bank as part of the support operation. The official had confirmed under cross-examination "that the word indemnity was never mentioned as such".

Mr Harman said that his client was highly respected in business circles and in the arts world. "Sir Jack is a man who enjoys good character, unblemished at the age of 74. We say it makes it very much less likely that he would have embarked on a course of criminal conduct at the age of 70 than if he was a man of a third of that age," he said.

The case continues today.

Chess player accused of wounding

By MICHAEL HORNSEY

A CHESS player was remanded on bail yesterday after allegedly wounding another competitor in the neck with a broken table lamp during a row in a restaurant at Eastbourne, East Sussex, where the British chess championships are taking place.

Conor Bracken, aged 22, of Reading, Berkshire, was charged at Eastbourne with maliciously wounding Philip Hughes, aged 21, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.

Bracken has been banned from the Hill-S Samuel major open championship, which is running parallel with the British championships at the town's Winter Gardens. Mr Hughes, who had not played Bracken, was recovering in hospital and was said to be comfortable.

George Smith, secretary of the chess congress, said: "This incident is to the detriment of the chess congress. We have never had anything like this before."



The plinth and cross being lifted at Stainmore Pass during the search for the grave of the marauding Viking ruler who died in 954

ARCHAEOLOGISTS began searching yesterday for the last resting place of one of Britain's bloodiest rulers, Erik Bloodaxe, head of the Kingdom of York and Northumbria in the final days of Viking domination.

He was killed in the battle of Stainmore in 954 AD, when his army was defeated by followers of the English King Edred. Northumbria and North Yorkshire were the spoils of a victory that marked the first steps in the formation of the present border between England and Scotland.

At the highest point of Stainmore Pass, near Barnard Castle, Co Durham, a boundary marker known as Rey Cross has been battered by the weather for 1,000 years. According to legend, the cross, now just a

Searching for the grave of Erik Bloodaxe

stump of sandstone close by the A66, marks the grave of Erik Bloodaxe.

Yesterday the cross and plinth were lifted and moved to the nearby Bowes museum. The A66 is to be widened, but for the next few months experts will dig away at the site in the hope of finding Erik Bloodaxe's tomb.

Erik, son of a king of Norway, and the epitome of a marauding Viking, acquired

his surname after murdering two of his brothers. Later, after numerous battles, he took charge of York and Northumbria.

John Pickin, antiquities officer at Bowes Museum, asked whether the project will unearth Erik's remains, said: "Archaeology is full of surprises. Local legend and some historical facts indicate that he could be down there."

The Rey Cross will be examined in minute detail by museum staff before being put on show. Sensitive photographic equipment will be used to try to decipher inscriptions that have become invisible to the naked eye. Then, when work on the A66 has been completed in 18 months, the cross will return to Stainmore.

They replace Barbara MacGillchrist, of the University of London Institute of Education; Hilary Nicolle, deputy director of education in Wandsworth, and Felicity Taylor, of the National Association of Governors and Managers, whose term of office expires later this month.

Priest criticises Carey over handling of dismissal

By a STAFF REPORTER

A PRIEST who yesterday lost his claim that he was unfairly dismissed by the Church of England said that he feared for the future of the church with Dr George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury designate, at its head.

Father Keith Turns, former senior assistant priest at All Saints Church at Clevedon, Avon, claimed that he was dismissed "out of the blue" in a letter from his rector, the Rev John Smart, in August 1989.

Speaking after an industrial tribunal in Bristol had refused his ap-

plication for a hearing, Father Turns said: "In my opinion, what the church has done is un-Christian. I do not think Dr Carey has acted honourably during these proceedings."

Father Turns, who has been ordained for 19 years, took his case to an industrial tribunal after claiming that his rector had sacked him because of a personality clash.

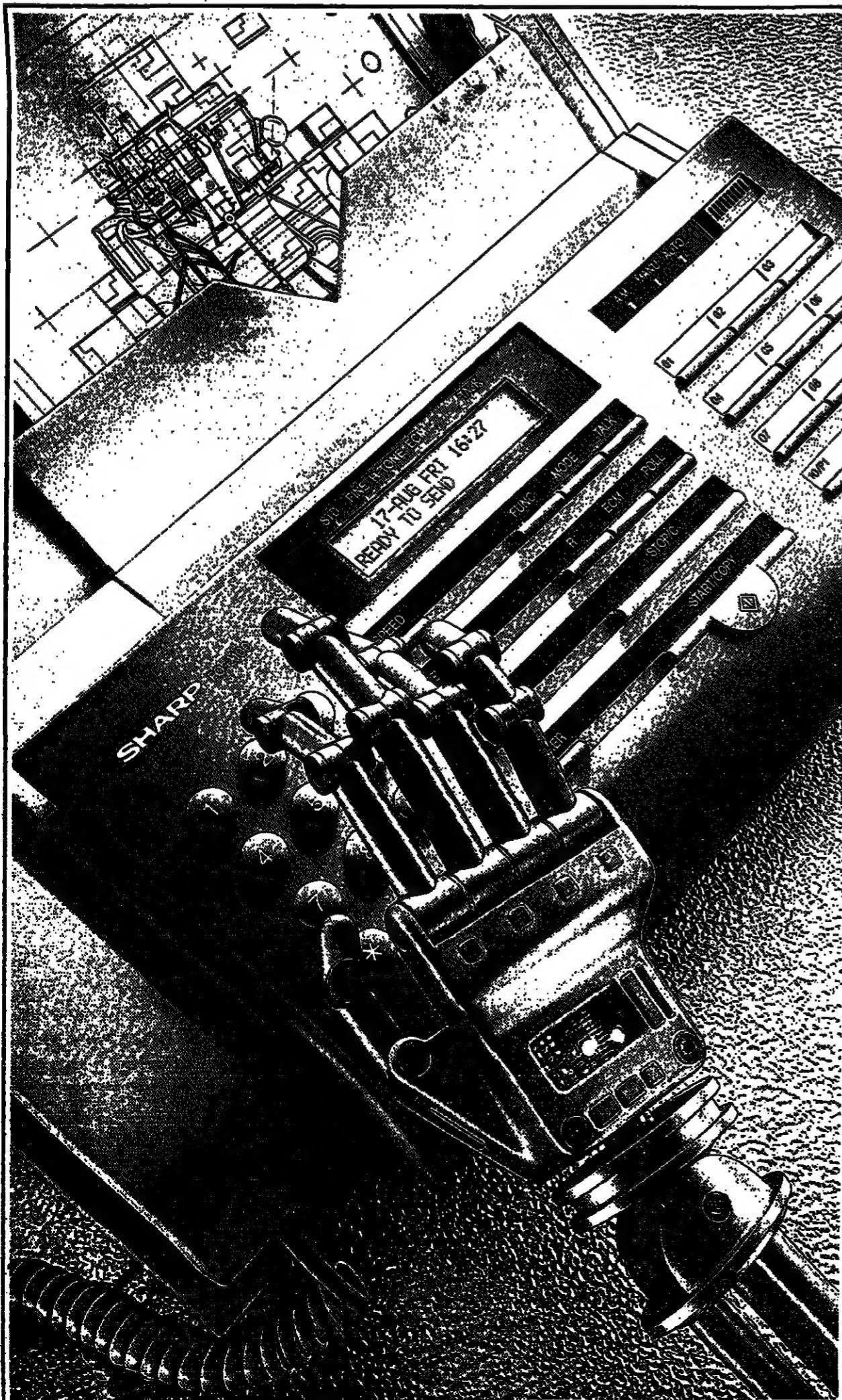
Roland Callaby, for the diocese of Bath and Wells, said Father Turns had "accepted a calling to serve God in the church. Your duties in serving the church are

defined by your conscience, not by a term of employment." Father Turns's case was dismissed by the tribunal panel after it ruled he did not have a contract of employment with the diocese of Bath and Wells.

Father Turns, who runs a business in Carrog, Clwyd, North Wales, said he would consider whether to appeal. "I feel very aggrieved towards the way the church has acted and I don't know whether I would ever want to go back into it. I would not give up my licence with the diocese but I might consider changing my faith away from the

Anglican church to another catholic religion."

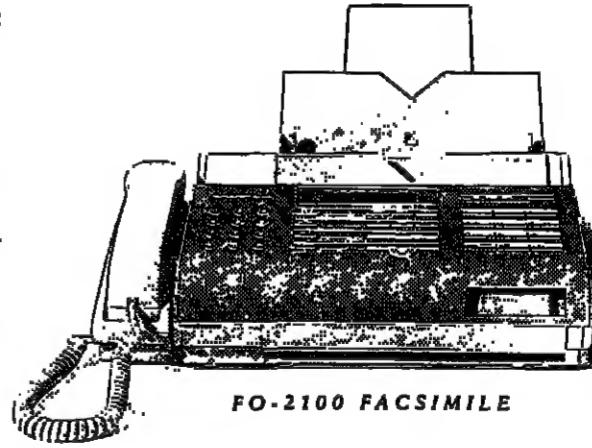
After the hearing, the Ven John Burgess, Archdeacon of Bath, said: "The 1911 National Insurance Act makes it clear that clergy of all religions be they Christian, Sikh, Muslim or anything else, are self-employed. In the case of Father Turns, the diocese of Bath and Wells could only state that this was the current situation and that a tribunal had no power to try his unfair dismissal claim. Only government legislation could change the contractual position of clergy."



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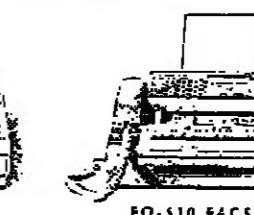
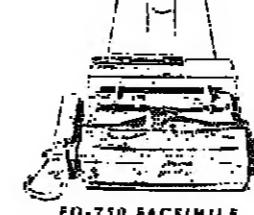
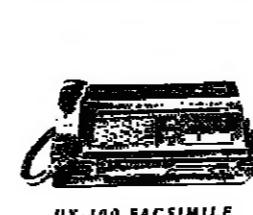
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Willis warns unions to keep party line on strike laws

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

NORMAN WILLIS, the TUC general secretary, is attempting to prevent an inter-union dispute over employment legislation that he believes could lose Labour the next election.

Mr Willis plans to head off a split between the union movement and the Labour party by warning union leaders today that they will be playing into the hands of the Conservatives if they reject a general council statement on employment law. TUC leaders are concerned that "the winter of discontent", which contributed to the defeat of the last Labour government, in 1979, could be raised as an election issue if delegates to next month's congress insist on the abolition of all "anti-union laws" enacted by the Tories.

The general council statement is in line with Labour party policy under which the numbers of pickets will be determined through a statutory code; secondary action will be limited; ballots will be required before a strike; and union officials will be subjected to elections.

Mr Willis's warning appears to be aimed primarily at the 750,000-strong National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo), which, although not named in his statement, has accused the Labour party of adopting much of the basic philosophy of Tory policy.

Alan Jinkinson, Nalgo's general secretary, has emerged as one of the main critics of what he sees as pressure to make the TUC and its affiliates abandon their principles.

"The election has yet to be won and lost, and our deliberations could play no small role in setting the agenda," Mr Willis says.



Jason Landy and Paul Evans, from Aberconwy comprehensive school, Gwynedd, get their sea legs at Port Dinorwic before setting off for the Azores on the 72ft Francis Drake. They fill two scholarship places on the voyage being undertaken by St David's College, Llandudno

Welsh passports win the day

By ROBIN YOUNG

WELSH nationalists claimed victory on a day trip to France yesterday because they returned to Britain on home-made Welsh passports.

Eight day-trippers supporters of the Free Welsh Covenant Society, were allowed through immigration controls at Dover even though they carried no valid travel documents. They showed officials their green Welsh passports emblazoned with a dragon and with information printed only in Welsh and French.

The group claimed to have had a good-natured reception at Dover. "Both sides put their point of view and then we were allowed in," one said. "I suppose the officers could tell

by our accents that we were Welsh and had the right to live here."

The covenanters say that printing their own passports is only a preliminary step in a campaign to assert Welsh independence. A Home Office spokesman said, however, that people could be allowed into the country without British passports if immigration officers were satisfied that they were entitled to live in Britain.

"Being allowed into England on a Welsh passport is a very far cry from everyone having to show a passport to get into Wales, which is what these people say they want," the spokesman added.

Language fighters have say with Hunt

DAVID Hunt, the Secretary of State for Wales, broke ground at the Welsh National Eisteddfod yesterday when he had impromptu talks on the future of the Welsh language with noisy protesters.

Making a surprise visit to the festival in the Rhymney Valley, Mr Hunt was greeted by about 100 demonstrators, some with megaphones, shouting in Welsh. "We will hunt round the field."

The group, many of them members of the Welsh Language Society, are calling for a new Welsh language act.

Like previous secretaries of state, Mr Hunt has refused discussions with the group until they abandon illegal activities, such as breaking into government offices and scrawling graffiti.

However, already accepted as a man who will listen to everyone's point of view, Mr Hunt listened courteously to the protesters demands face-to-face on the eisteddfod field.

Mr Hunt, whose first language was Welsh, said he was deeply committed to the future of the Welsh language and was anxious that the Welsh nation, Welsh speakers or not, were united in their desire to see it preserved.

Government funding for the language stands at £6.8 million a year.

The new Arch Druid of Wales, William George, said the message from the eisteddfod had to be a call for a new Welsh language act — giving the language official status.

Ex-MP 'spent night in hut after illegal eviction'

A FORMER Conservative MP spent a night in a workman's roadside hut after being unlawfully thrown out of his flat by his landlords, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Geoffrey Stewart-Smith, aged 56, MP for Belper from 1970 to 1974, was a bankrupt and owed his landlords almost £1,500 in rent at the time he was turned on to the street without money or possessions, the court was told.

Mr Stewart-Smith, now of Ashe, near Basingstoke, Hampshire, told the court that his landlord, Philip Hodgeson, aged 33, snatched the front door key from him after luring him outside the house containing the flat, in Pimlico, southwest London. Mr Hodgeson threw the keys to his wife, Maria, aged 33, and shouted at her to shut the door.

Mr Stewart-Smith said: "I was totally convinced that I would not be let back into the flat. I felt a burning sense that I had been assaulted and robbed and illegally evicted." He added: "I was absolutely hysterical with anger and rage."

The Hodgesons, who live in the ground-floor flat of the house, deny unlawfully evicting Mr Stewart-Smith on April 24 last year.

The former MP said that he had tried to persuade the Hodgesons to let him back into the house, so that the matter could be sorted out amicably. The landlords refused to let him in unless he handed over the money he owed them.

"I thought the Hodgesons might try to take my stuff away that night," he said. "There was a British Telecom workers' hut across the road and I stayed there, wide awake, all night."

He had been terrified that the landlords would destroy documents that he needed for an appeal court hearing the next day.

The former MP said that he had been certain that the eviction was criminal and had gone straight to a police station. The police, however, were said to have told him that the dispute was a civil one and to consult a solicitor.

Mr Stewart-Smith first went to five in the flat in June 1988. He said he had been declared bankrupt in 1987, and that his son had signed the initial rental agreement for six months. During that time his family paid the £520 a month.

Problems began after he

Doctors call for smoking ban on all flights

By THOMSON PRENTICE MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE World Health Organisation and the British Medical Association called yesterday for all airlines to ban smoking on passenger flights.

The move is based on growing evidence of the hazards of passive smoking to air travellers, and on a survey by the two organisations suggesting that some airlines would support a ban if it were imposed by governments or international agencies.

The survey, published yesterday, shows that 15 out of 18 United Kingdom airlines have reviewed their policies on smoking, most of them within the last year. Nine of the 18 operate smoke-free domestic flights and all the others ban pipes and cigars and restrict smoking to small sections of the aircraft.

Consumer pressure was the main reason given by airlines for imposing bans or restrictions. "There would be some support for a mandatory ban on all in-flight smoking, but the initiative would have to come from a monitoring body rather than the airlines themselves," the survey says.

According to the WHO and the BMA, passive smoking — involuntary inhalation of cigarette fumes by non-smokers — leads to 300 lung cancer deaths in the United Kingdom each year, and 3,800 a year in the United States.

In London yesterday, the two organisations produced a study involving non-smoking passengers and flight attendants in America. It showed that they had measurable levels of cotinine, a metabolite of nicotine, in their urine after a four-hour flight on which some passengers smoked.

Martin Jarvis, a scientist at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, said that cigarettes produced up to 4,000 chemicals, of which 60 per cent were carcinogenic. "On an aircraft, non-smokers are not insulated against the smoke from their fellow passengers, and this study shows some of the effects," he said.

Alistair MacMillan, of the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine, said that air in aircraft was "simply humidified and recirculated".

Man, 33, dies from wasp sting

An agricultural contractor, aged 33, died before he had time to swallow life-saving anti-histamine tablets after he was stung by a wasp in the garden of his home at Wellow, near Bath, Avon.

Richard Phillips, a married man with two daughters, was put into a van by his wife and driven towards a hospital. She flagged down an ambulance on the way, but he died of an allergic reaction. He nearly died and carried the anti-histamine pills as a precaution.

Home saved

A house said to have been a wartime headquarters and home of the late Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, has been saved from demolition. The environment department has upheld a council decision to refuse planning permission for a block of flats on the site.

Safe landing

A Yugoslav Boeing 737 carrying 130 British holidaymakers made an emergency landing at Birmingham yesterday because of engine failure. No one was hurt.

Mail shock

An Isle of Wight man sifting through his mail yesterday found a 3ft-long black rat snake, a native of the United States, asleep in his letterbox.

Tree order

The London borough of Islington was granted another 56 days by the High Court yesterday to comply with an order to cut down a 150-year-old horse chestnut tree in St Paul's Place, now occupied by protesters trying to save it.

Horse power

Gypsey in a pony and trap managed to escape from police after racing along the busy A27 dual carriageway at Lewes, Sussex, yesterday in spite of being pursued by a patrol car and helicopter.

Boat death

A navigator in a powerboat race at Allhallowes, Kent, died of a broken spine after his boat hit a bank of water at 60mph. He has not been named.

Kangaroo hunt

Train crews reported a kangaroo hopping near tracks at Bookham, Surrey, yesterday. The animal was not found in spite of a safari-style search by transport police.

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Short-lived triumph for first Muslim woman leader

FROM REUTER
IN ISLAMABAD

BENAZIR Bhutto won her place in history as the first Muslim woman prime minister, but found that leading Pakistan's transition from long military rule to democracy was not easy.

Miss Bhutto and her government were dismissed yesterday by President Ishaq Khan, who dissolved parliament and ordered national elections. The president, speaking at a press conference, said that the government no longer commanded public confidence and cited abuse of power, nepotism and corruption.

The Opposition leader, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, who had announced at the weekend that he planned to topple Miss Bhutto in a vote of no confidence in parliament, was sworn in as caretaker prime minister immediately afterwards.

Miss Bhutto had been forced at times to compromise with a power-

ful presidency and the military while fighting unrelenting onslaughts from her political opponents. In recent months opponents had questioned her government's ability to maintain order as her home province of Sind was convulsed by ethnic violence.

A Western-educated daughter of a prime minister executed by the military强人 who ousted him, Miss Bhutto emerged triumphant from elections in November 1988 after 11 years of imprisonment, exile and powerless opposition.

But the battle was far from over. Her opponents regrouped and kept up remorseless fire on her inexperienced minority government, distracting it from the urgent business of development, stoking up simmering ethnic tensions and calling into question hopes of a new democratic era.

Despite the bitterness and the

disappointment, Miss Bhutto remained publicly confident, her idealism as prominent as ever. "I feel so strongly about what I am doing", she said in a newspaper interview in May. "I really feel that a country like Pakistan needs freedom and the rule of law and for me it is an objective for which I am prepared to sacrifice everything."

The opposition, however, saw no idealism in her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) government, just incompetence, vindictiveness, corruption and a betrayal of Islamic values and national interests.

That she survived in office as long as she did surprised many commentators, who had expected her government to last a few months at most.

Miss Bhutto maintained a high profile abroad. In Western and many other countries she was seen largely as a photogenic champion of women's rights in an Islamic society.

For 11 years Miss Bhutto fought

mainly against President Zia, but his cunning and control of the armed forces made him impregnable. Then, in August 1988, he was killed in a still-unexplained aircraft crash and everything changed.

Miss Bhutto, although weak from the birth of her first child, took to the hustings with gusto and the magic of the Bhutto name proved as potent as ever. Her every appear-

ance was met by tens of thousands of frenzied supporters waving PPP flags.

Miss Bhutto won 39 per cent of the vote, the same as her father had in 1970. That left the PPP the biggest party in parliament, but short of an overall majority.

When President Ishaq Khan nominated her as prime minister, supporters went for joy, set off fireworks and fired guns in the air. She was 35.

Conservative mullahs, however, were unconvinced, saying a woman was not meant by God to govern, although her visits later to orthodox Islamic countries such as Saudi Arabia and Iran, and to shrines there, seemed to weaken that objection. Nevertheless, open warfare soon began between the PPP and the opposition Islamic Democratic Alliance.

Leading article, page 11



Ishaq Khan: accused Bhutto of abuse of power

Kohl under pressure from early unity drive

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

PRESSURE for early German reunification, possibly this week and not tied to an election, is growing on both sides of the border. The declared reason is to counter the deteriorating economic situation in East Germany. The real reason is a bid by opposition parties to steal the political initiative from Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor.

Even if the unity process is rushed forward, however, it cannot happen fully until after the next meeting of the foreign ministers from the two Germanies and the four second world war allies, which must approve the external security aspects involved. They are not due to meet until early next month in Moscow.

Vietnam in first formal US talks

New York — The United States and Vietnam held their first formal talks on Cambodia yesterday in a step diplomats said could eventually open a process towards normalizing relations.

The head of the American delegation to the one-day talks at the Vietnamese mission, Kenneth Quinn, deputy assistant secretary of state for Asian and Pacific affairs, will return immediately to Washington and make a statement, diplomats said. US officials said there would be further formal contacts. (AP)

Army massacre

Cebu City — Twenty-one Muslims killed by troops in the southern Philippines in what the military had said was a gun battle were civilian victims of an army massacre, a government human rights panel said. (Reuters)

Fighter demand

Delhi — The Indian air force, angered by delays in the country's light combat aircraft project, has asked the defence ministry to consider buying Western-made advanced fighters, senior air force officials said. British-made Hawks and French-made Alpha jets were the leading contenders. (Reuters)

Temples razed

Peking — Chinese police have arrested 23 leaders of a Buddhist sect and razed 13 of its temples after accusing it of attacking the Communist party and plotting to establish a "Lotus kingdom", a Chinese newspaper said. (Reuters)

Boys murdered

Jerusalem — Two teenage Israeli boys were found murdered two days after disappearing on their way to visit a friend in Arab East Jerusalem. Police said that they may have been kidnapped by Palestinian nationalists. (Reuters)

Airstrips alert

Rio de Janeiro — The Brazilian government is to restart legally dynamiting airstrips illegally built by gold miners on Indian territory in the northern Amazonian state of Roraima after reports that the miners have rebuilt airstrips destroyed in May and are preparing to return in force.

Blaze controlled

Rome — Fire fighters using helicopters and special planes to fetch water from the Mediterranean contained a widespread forest fire which had threatened the Tuscan sea port of Livorno and beach resorts.



The wives of the African National Congress president and his deputy, Adelaide Tambo, left, and Winnie Mandela, in Johannesburg yesterday. Mrs Tambo was making her first visit to South Africa after 30 years' exile

Poles bring back school religion

From ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

RELIGION classes will be reintroduced in all Polish schools, including kindergartens, from the beginning of the new school year next month.

The hard-fought agreement

between the Roman Catholic Church and the Solidarity-led government, announced yesterday, is part of a continuing battle over the character of the post-communist state.

Hungary is in the grip of a similar conflict. In a test case last month, Hungarian parents resisted attempts by the Catholic Church to take over the famous Arany János School in Budapest.

The issues in the three Catholic-dominated areas of Eastern Europe — Poland, Hungary and Slovakia — span abortion, compulsory religion classes and the presence of crucifixes at the workplace

and at schools. After four decades of repression, the church is anxious to claw back some of its traditional territory. In Hungary, for example, about 2,000 church schools were closed by the communists.

Many East Europeans, however, including the new governing class, want to keep church and state strictly separate. They are trying to retain the laws that allow easy abortion and divorce and are worried that religious bigotry may fill the vacuum left by the collapse of communism. Such is the attitude of the Polish government, despite the close ties with the church maintained by Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the prime minister.

The new ruling on religious education in Poland stipulates that the classes, to be held

twice a week, will be attended by all children whose parents agree. For those with dissenting parents, there will be alternative classes in ethics.

Classes in religious education will not be the broad "religious knowledge" of British schools, but will concentrate on the Roman Catholic catechism. However, the government has not completely caved in to the demands of the bishops.

Religion classes will not affect the child's overall marks.

Prayers can now be said before and after classes, but not if they offend any of the pupils.

The former communist daily newspaper, *Tribuna*, denounced the agreement yesterday, saying it was a behind-the-scenes deal that should have been fully debated in parliament. Instead, it was slipped in during the summer

recess. "Religion has entered our schools through the sculeni door — not a good omen," the newspaper said. Even radical Catholic parliamentarians, such as Senator Józef Heniewicz, are wary of moving too quickly in reinstating the church's influence.

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Trickle down, gushing up

Raymond Plant

When assessing the Department of Social Security's figures about households with below average incomes, it is important to be clear about one's criteria. Here, of course, right and left part company. For the left, poverty is related to inequality, through the idea of relative poverty. A person is poor if he cannot take part in activities that are valued in the society in which he or she lives. This is a difficult idea to quantify, but one yardstick is the EC definition: a person is poor if he or she receives less than half the average income in society. In a growing economy, the gap can only widen.

Although the government pours cold water on the idea of relative poverty, it was not the invention of left-wing sociologists of the 1960s. Rather, it is to be found in the work of Adam Smith, the principal guru of economic liberalism. The right, however, rejects the idea of relative poverty because it would sanction distributive politics, which gives the state a central role in the distribution of resources, so as to ensure that people have the basic means of citizenship. More precisely, many on the left would like to bring everyone up to or near to half the average income.

In the view of the new right, inequality is necessary if there are to be incentives in a dynamic economy. Distributive politics assumes that you can only make the poor richer by making the rich poorer, and this is a dangerous fallacy. It assumes that economics is a zero-sum game, which will lock social groups into an anarchic struggle for economic resources. In the view of the right, it is better to rely on the trickle-down effect of the free market, with the money the rich spend today trickling down to the rest of society, including the worst off, over time.

This view assumes that what matters to the poorest sections of society is not the gap between them and the rich, but whether their own income is increasing year by year. The poor person is principally interested in whether his or her real income is higher this year than it was last year irrespective of the relative gap between that income and the rest of society. So figures showing a growth in inequality will not trouble the government. The trickle-down effect would have ceased to work only if the real income of the poorest was falling.

So in the poverty debate, left and right have different criteria. The left sees inequality and the relative gap between rich and poor as central; the right argues that what matters is that the real incomes of the poor are rising, irrespective of whether those of the rich are rising faster. Those who doubt that this is the view of the government should consult

The author is Professor of Politics at Southampton University.

...and moreover

GRIFF RHYS JONES

I am searching for a new word. It is a word like "fallacious" or, more colloquially, "yobbly", as in "I did a right yobbly the other day", or even "I made a proper yobbly of myself". It means the act of doing something which should not be done, but which you realise should not be done only by the act of doing it: Ridley's Syndrome, in fact.

Walking the street in Los Angeles: that's yobbly. Motorists stop their mobile fridges-freezers, lean on the horn and stare as if you were an okapi or a loose dog. You realise the fallacy. What appeared sense is nonsense. And there is no way you could have known! You have yobbled. Other familiar yobbles include waterborne receptions, after-dinner speaking, and most organised sport after the age of 35.

I had a dreadful yobbly on Friday. I took a trolley on Liverpool Street station. How important to the true yobbly that the notion should seem such good sense. "A trolley?" you say. "One of those things with wheels which twist in every direction but the one in which you want to go?"

"Yes".

"One of the two on the whole of Liverpool Street station?"

"That's right".

And that's where yobbishness lies. Of course, you should be able to push your trolley around a concourse. Why not load up with a bag of cut-price trousers? How about a suitcase and a couple of flat cardboard boxes containing French self-assembly plant stands, cunningly packaged so that however stowed, they project two feet in each direction? A small equipment for a gentleman of leisure off to the rolling acre. But in the rush hour, during a heatwave, on a station undergoing extensive modernisation for the fifth year running, it is utter madness.

"A station for the 21st century," the sign says. A boast or a threat? Commuterage flows onto Liverpool Street station like an outfall onto a British beach: in one direction only. Thanks to the hot weather, fires have broken out along the track, points have swollen like old ladies' ankles, and the pantographs on the locomotives have gone funny. There are delays.

the series of speeches made by John Moore just before he ceased to be social security secretary, and should consider the strategy of the 1988 Budget.

So how do the figures in the recent report look in the light of these two approaches? Between 1979 and 1987, average income rose by 23 per cent; those in the top 1 per cent of income distribution saw their income rise by 80 per cent; for median households in the bottom 1 per cent, incomes rose by 0.1 per cent after inflation.

So, interpreting the trickle-down effect strictly, it can be argued that although the real income of the median household in the poorest groups rose by a minuscule amount, it did rise. However, those who have praised the virtues of the trickle-down effect have usually assumed that the outcome for the poor would be better than this. Indeed, the figures also reveal that the income of 1.3 million people actually fell in real terms, by 6 per cent.

If we take the EC poverty line of half average income, poverty doubled from 4.93 million in 1979 to 10.5 million in 1987. It is difficult not to believe that the hidden hand of the market is making a rather rude gesture to the worst-off members of society. Remember too that these figures are based on statistics gathered before the introduction of the Fowler changes in social security benefits, and that the poor are now likely to be still worse off.

The problem for the left is to argue that inequality matters in itself. Why does it matter that the income of the top 1 per cent increased by 80 per cent, or that of the mid decile group by more than 10 per cent? Unless Labour clearly states the argument about inequality, it is unlikely to mobilise sufficient support for tax changes to improve the lot of the poor.

One way of putting the case for limiting inequality is in terms of empowerment. Government ministers have talked about the empowering effects of the market, but it is not clear that the market alone — with all the large inequalities it produces — can be empowering. This has to do with the nature of power. If power is an infinitely expandable good, then a dynamic market can empower people by putting more money in their pockets. But this is a dubious view of power; for power is essentially relational. I have power in relation to you only because you have less of it than I. Our relative position is vital, and power is inextricably linked to inequality. If this is so, the poor can be empowered only if the power of other groups in society is diminished. So: limiting inequality is central to empowering the worst-off, and the market, whatever its other virtues, cannot empower the poor.

The author is Professor of Politics at Southampton University.

Michael Howard urges greater commitment to bring East Europeans into the Community

Thatcher vision in need of deeds

In her much heralded speech at Aspen on Sunday, the prime minister covered a great deal of ground. Drugs, the environment, aid to the Third World, defence and the United Nations all received somewhat perfunctory attention. A new paragraph had to be hurriedly written in, railing the UN against Saddam Hussein, and her strong leadership on this issue makes one thankful that she is still in the driving seat. But essentially Mrs Thatcher regarded the occasion as an opportunity to state to an American audience her views about Europe; and most welcome they were.

The American setting explains much, including no doubt the reference to Magna Carta: an arid and ambiguous document that means little to our European partners but has long been an indispensable part of Anglo-Saxon political myth. It is evidence of the persistence of a deep cultural divide that Anglo-Saxons still use the language of "The Good Old Cause" whereas across the Channel, people think in terms of "human rights" as expounded in the French Revolution and established by the Napoleonic Codes.

But as Magna Carta was concerned with limiting the powers of the central government rather than enhancing them, it was an appropriate reference point for the prime minister. "A Europe which rejects central control and its associated bureaucracy" is language of which the barons at Runnymede would thoroughly have approved. Yet when she presents her ideas at the autumn summit on co-operation and security in Europe, Mrs Thatcher should think of a historical analogy more intelligible in Paris, Prague, Warsaw and Rome.

The debate over distribution of power between regions or localities and the centre (whether London or Brussels) is an intrinsic part of the democratic process, and always has been. One can only reiterate that the growing range and complexity of social activity strengthens the need for power at the centre, wherever it may be, and that we should be trying not to destroy that power but to make it more accountable. That is what the growth of parliamentary institutions has done in this country, and what we should be doing in Europe.

Debate will continue over whether Europe should be a *Staatenbund* or a *Bundestaat*. What seems apparent from the prime minister's speech, however, is that she has moved far from her original scepticism about the European idea, and is now seriously discussing what kind of Community that ought to be.

This change of approach is justified by the liberation of the nations of Central and Eastern Europe. The original concept of the European Community embraced only the wealthy states of Western Europe. At the time nothing more was necessary or practicable. Since then, adjustments have been made to accommodate the poorer states of southern Europe, but the advent of the new democracies from the East — with economies not so much backward as poisoned by 40 years of communism — presents an entirely new challenge.

These nations are part of the historic European family, and it is only through the Community that Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia — and perhaps one day Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Romania — can be reintegrated into the

world's economic and political system. So we are right to ask whether institutions shaped to serve the needs of a smaller and more homogeneous community are appropriate to deal with the new challenges.

Perhaps only a community with considerable central control, especially of financial resources, will have the power and flexibility to help these East European countries on the right scale. Without careful co-ordination from Brussels, a web of competitive bilateral arrangements could grow up, wasting resources and provoking international rivalry. The advent of our East European neighbours may enhance the need for central power rather than diminish it, and the prime minister must prove the case to the contrary.

Nevertheless, in setting her sights on the enlargement of Europe, Mrs Thatcher deserves our full support. She will certainly be supported in Central and Eastern Europe, where she is already immensely popular. The speech shows that Mrs Thatcher is no longer dragging her feet over Europe but striding out boldly in a new and promising direction.

Sir Michael Howard is Robert E. Lovett Professor of Modern History at Yale University.

Eject the Iraqis, then help the Gulf to democracy

Whatever the outcome of Iraq's latest attempt at gobbling up Kuwait, the drama of the past few days should focus attention on the fragility of state structures in a region that accounts for nearly half of the world's proven oil reserves.

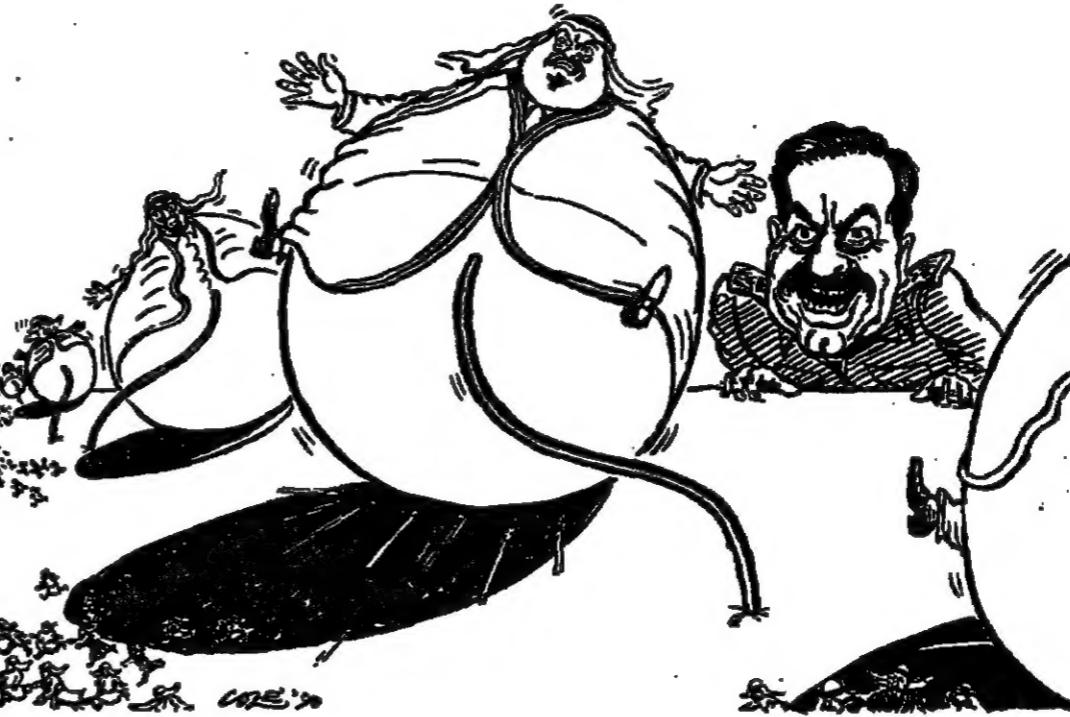
In the short run, the only proper and strategically wise objective is to wrest Kuwait back from the Iraqi grip and return it to its own people, with or without the ruling family. Given imagination and resolve this objective is eminently attainable. Despite its million-man army, the Iraqi regime has feet of clay. Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in part because he wanted to divert attention from Iraq's internal problems. With \$60 billion debt, it is on the verge of bankruptcy. Even if Kuwait's oil income were added to that of Iraq, he would still not have enough to fulfil his overambitious

The Iraqi army is not entirely devoted to Saddam's mad dream of a Mesopotamian empire. During the past 12 months, hundreds of army and police officers have been purged or murdered. Liberal and nationalist officers at all levels are believed to be waiting to oust him when the time comes. In the north, rebellious Kurds, bloodied but unbowed, are preparing to return their struggle next winter, when climatic conditions favour guerrilla warfare.

We should aim not only to contain Saddam, but to force him to retreat. The West should overcome its post-colonial inhibitions and realise that there is no shame in helping human rights and democracy wherever possible.

Many in the West have difficulty in understanding the Gulf situation, because they think of the Arab states as European-style national structures operating within a classical balance of power. However, these countries are largely artificial constructs, states but not yet nations. They are forums searching for content.

They were inspired — and some even created — by Britain during the past 150 years. Until now they have felt no real need for support from their own people. Income from oil makes them rich enough not to need the people for taxation revenue. They do not even need to return to the work. In only two



Arab countries in the Gulf — Saudi Arabia and Iraq — are native citizens in a majority. In the other five, foreigners account for between half and two-thirds of the population. In each of these seven states, foreign "guest workers" and other immigrant groups account for between a quarter and four-fifths of the workforce.

The typical Arab state in the Gulf does not even rely on its own people to fight its wars. During the past four decades, British, Iranian, Egyptian and even Cuban forces have fought the various wars in the region on behalf of this or that Arab regime.

Somehow the existing state structures must be made dependent on the people they are supposed to represent. This means a search for a new legitimacy, which ought to be based on something more than vague tribal claims to the right to rule. Unless the peoples of the region can identify with existing political structures, they have no reason to

risk their lives fighting for them.

Even the privileged "natives" (who enjoy the fruits of oil prosperity) regard themselves as unjustly treated by rulers who control the national income and refuse all accountability. Many Gulf peoples try to build their own freedom and security abroad.

More than a third of native Kuwaitis have homes in Europe or North America and spend at least part of the year abroad.

The present arrangements in the region worked more or less well until the end of the 1960s when Britain ended its military presence east of Suez. In the 1970s, the Shah of Iran managed to maintain a precarious balance, and in the 1980s fear of Khomeinism prevented the Arab structures from falling apart. Now that Iran is too weak to count in the region, the basic flaws in the system are becoming clear.

The oil-rich countries are soft targets, easy to conquer. Numerous time-bombs, such as Iraq's

ambition to annex Kuwait, are ticking away in the region. Virtually all the Arab states have territorial claims and counter-claims that could lead to war.

What are the West's options? A return to the 19th-century system of "protection" is out of the question, being too costly and difficult to sell to western electorates, and the military odds are unfavourable. When Iraq first tried to seize Kuwait in 1961, the then dictator of Baghdad had no more than 75,000 troops at his disposal, and no chemical weapons or superguns.

In the long term, a stable political system must be developed in the region. A crucial element should be the merger of the tiny Arab states into larger units. Unity appeals to the Arabs, so why should Saddam be allowed to pose as the champion of this cause? The members of the Gulf Co-operation Council — Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and

Kuwait — could work out a plan for military and political unification within, say, a decade. More immediately, they could harmonise their defence plans and link up with more moderate Arab states, such as Egypt.

Equally important is the granting of full citizenship to millions of non-natives who have, often for generations, been workers and residents in the Arab states of the Gulf. Within a larger unit, the "natives" would represent a majority of the population, so the fear of being taken over by foreigners would recede.

Democracy must be encouraged, with the people involved in decision-making. Such reforms might spell the end of some of the rulers, but no one need shed tears for them.

Until a decade or so ago, there was, perhaps, no credible base for democracy in the Arab states of the Gulf. Today however, all have strong middle classes, many of them western educated and familiar with modern forms of government. Given a chance they could learn the democratic game.

Kuwait itself was a good example of this until the 1980s, when the ruler, scared by Khomeinism, closed the parliament and reverted to autocratic tribal rule. But when protest was mounting in Kuwait last year, there were no Khomeinists around. The *divan* movement was middle-class, fighting for free elections and multiparty government. The region's political energies are by no means confined to fundamentalists or pseudo-nationalists like Saddam. Given a chance, the region's middle classes could lead their countries into the political mainstream of the contemporary world.

Kicking Saddam out of Kuwait with his tail between his legs should be just the first step towards creating a new and stable system in the region. The West's long-term goal should be to help forces in the region that share its political and moral values. The future of the Gulf should be seen in political as well as purely military terms.

Amir Taheri is author of *The Cauldron: Middle East Behind the Headlines* (Hutchinson, 1988).

Ashdown to the breach

Saddam Hussein has rushed in where his predecessor, General Abdul Karim Kassem, feared to tread. But then he has not had Paddy Ashdown to contend with...

In July 1961, only weeks after Kuwait became independent of Britain, Kassem massed troops and tanks on the border in pursuit of Iraq's long-standing claim to Kuwaiti territory — one of the reasons behind Saddam's invasion.

The only time HMS Bulwark had previously cruised at 30 knots was for ten minutes during its commissioning trial, but it maintained that speed for 36 hours all the way to Kuwait, "I'm not a foot an hour, I guessed. The same speed as an InterCity train.

At the end of the 20 minutes it took to get through Shetland, I toyed with the notion of a cool drink. Apparently there was a buffet situated towards the rear. What could be simpler? It must be just along here...

I have reached the unpalatable conclusion that new words are redundant anyway. Who needs these parlour games? With a bit of application, life itself can become one long yobbly and that's no fallaciousness.

a moneyed stranger in town — this was long before Kuwait became Midas-like rich from oil — Kuwaitis had followed them up to sell them food and drink.

From the capital, Ashdown and his fellow marines were sent to the Iraqi border, where for ten days they dug trenches and laid mines. Diplomatic moves were meanwhile going ahead, and the invasion never came. No shots were fired in anger.

Ashdown deterrent apart, the Iraqis perhaps decided they were no match for the training methods adopted by his commanding officer. Despite the steambath temperature, says Ashdown, "he had us all on deck learning Scottish dancing."

Travel on the railways is a subtle army play to divert the enemy

Surrounded they were, but by friendly Kuwaitis. With that instinctive sixth sense that detects

reports on the South African political situation, Winnie Mandela was so impressed that she obtained video copies and sent them to her husband. He played them back in the Paarl prison bungalow where he was being held, and was equally impressed.

The two men met again at a private party before the Wembley concert in April. "I admire him greatly," says McDonald, who is looking forward to another meeting. In the meantime he can glance occasionally at the photograph in the entrance hall of ITN's West End offices. It's of a smiling Mandela shaking hands with his new friend.

All in a day's work

Sir David Steel's demand that Parliament be recalled to debate Kuwait has sent a shiver of apprehension down the spines of the dozens of workmen now carrying out a multi-million pound refurbishment of the Palace of Westminster. In the absence of peers and MPs, they have been rippling up floors, stripping walls and steam-cleaning the kitchens.

Labour MP Stan Orme, chairman of the Commons committee supervising the works, says: "We would cope in an emergency. Facilities would be limited but we would ensure the place could function for a couple of days." In addition to interrupting the work, hundreds of staff would have to be called back from their holidays to man the libraries, security points, the Commons chamber and offices.

Sir Charles Irving, chairman of the Commons catering com-

pany, has already contacted the heads of the refreshment department. "There would be many mouths to feed, and you cannot give them bread and water," he says. "We are all geared up. We would not let the side down."

Out of the blue

The Economic Intelligence Unit, which prides itself on the prescience of its political forecasting, slipped up over the invasion of Kuwait. An advertisement in this week's *Economist* for a forthcoming EU report reads: "Kuwait in the 1990s: A society under siege." It goes on: "The report examines the prospects for this emirate surrounded by powerful and predatory neighbours and caught up in an internal siege..."

Conflicting opinions abound about the blunder. "We inserted the advertisement in advance and could not have taken it out," says an EU spokesman. The *Economist* thinks otherwise: "We can alter copy right up to the deadline. It must have just slipped through the net." So is the



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

UNITING FOR PEACE

What should the world do about President Saddam Hussein of Iraq: really do, not just talk and rattle expensive sabres? What is the massed weaponry of global policing now pointing at the Gulf — from frozen bank accounts to targeted pipelines to American carrier fleets — meant to achieve? After the natural horror with which the world greeted the ultimate political offence, the unprovoked conquest of a sovereign state, where does the voice of peace and reason lead?

The world may find it convenient to portray Saddam Hussein as a homicidal madman, to cartoon him as Hitler or Genghis Khan, just as the world chose last week to portray Kuwait as a latter-day "poor little" Belgium. Such parallels are dangerous. Saddam may conduct his politics with no regard for the codes of human decency. That does not make him a fool, or an incautious calculator of his country's strengths and weaknesses. His conduct of the Iran-Iraq war was not that of a madman.

Saddam's invasion of Kuwait was in the long tradition of economic imperialism. The Middle East has seen worse outrages. The outside world took no interest in the appalling Iran-Iraq war, or in Syria's operations in Lebanon. It dismissed Saddam's own actions against the Kurds as "internal". Sending in ground forces to attempt, probably unsuccessfully, to recapture Kuwait for the emir would have seemed a bizarre intervention in a conflict of Arabia's undemocratic warlords. The world did not intervene in Turkey's invasion of Cyprus or South Africa's of Angola or Tanzania's of Uganda.

The horror of Kuwait lies not so much in the totality of the conquest as in the implication of that conquest for a dozen states in an economically crucial region of the world. It was this that concentrated the world's collective mind over the past weekend. Saddam's declared intention was merely to serve notice on his neighbours that he wished a bigger say in price fixing for oil. He might have achieved this by waving his weapons at the emir, if need be depositing him and returning home tossing dire threats over his shoulder. The world might have damned him, but administered no more than a rap over the knuckles.

Saddam has not done this. He has served notice on the entire Middle East that he means to be its emperor. He appears intent on cornering the market for a quarter of world oil production and 75 per cent of known oil reserves. A full 85 per cent of the industrialised world's fuel comes from this region. To be sure, Iraq has no interest in stopping the flow of this resource, but Saddam's egomaniacal behaviour justifies President George Bush in saying that a "vital interest" is at stake in Iraq's actions.

Yet this is more than a matter of economics. Saddam has threatened his most hated enemy, Israel, with the most odious chemical weapons. He has massed up to 100,000 troops and tanks on the border with Saudi Arabia, just 200 miles from the chief Saudi oilfields. He has ordered Bahrain to expel American warplanes and stands glowering over the other powerless sheikhdoms of the Gulf. He is gathering foreign nationals from Kuwait to Baghdad apparently for use as hostages against sanctions.

Saddam Hussein constitutes a menace to his part of the globe and to the sovereignty and freedom of other states within it. The conflict transcends a dispute between two neighbours. Quite apart from the network of alliances covering the region — including between Britain and the Gulf emirates — there must be an overriding international concern that such aggression should not triumph. If the rest of the world has both the will and the means to resist it, then resistance should be employed.

Until recently, virtually all concerted international action to forestall aggression was stifled. The Russians would not wear article 43 of the United Nations' charter, under which the members agree to make available to the

PAKISTAN DROPS THE PILOT

The first lady of Islam has gone. The wistful dream of a democratic, humanitarian Pakistan was interrupted yesterday with Benazir Bhutto's abrupt dismissal as the Muslim world's first female prime minister. Whatever her faults, whatever her illusions, Miss Bhutto was and remains Pakistan's best hope of an outward and forward-looking future. Under her fallible but brave and decent guidance, Pakistan might have hoped in time to attain the position of moral leadership among Islamic countries to which the country's size and strength entitle it to aspire.

Pakistanis must now reconcile themselves to the likelihood that the caretaker government will use force to "restore order". An enemy of Miss Bhutto's, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, has been installed in office by presidential decree until new elections in October. Mr Jatoi was a colleague of his present rival's father, the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and refused to serve under the man who executed him, the late dictator Zia ul-Haq. Now that he has ousted the Oxford-educated daughter of his hero, the Cambridge-educated Mr Jatoi will find himself the tool, not of Bhutto's heirs, but of Zia's.

The most sinister aspect of yesterday's events was the fact that the outgoing national assembly was given no chance to express its assembly was given no chance to express its wishes: a vote of no-confidence in the Bhutto government had been due tomorrow. Many observers believe Miss Bhutto would have survived that division, which may explain why the president, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, did not wait to find out. Army units yesterday occupied all the communications centres, and may be expected to impose a severe regime on the troubled province of Sind, the homeland both of the Bhutto family and of Mr Jatoi.

Were Miss Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) assured of fair treatment in the coming general election, this valiant young woman (now pregnant for the third time) would stand a chance of gaining a more decisive victory than that of 1988. Sympathy for the unceremonious and possibly unconstitutional manner of her removal will run high. If she and her party are still at liberty by October, she could yet

Security Council "armed forces, assistance and facilities including rights of passage" to preserve world peace. The best the world could do was to send a few policemen, as in the Congo, Cyprus and Lebanon, or leave the dirty work to the superpowers. The UN put its muscle to the test only once, in Korea, and has never tried since. The dreams of the framers of the charter remained dreams.

On December 7, 1988, President Mikhail Gorbachev told the UN that the Soviet Union would now acknowledge article 43 and "enter into agreements" accordingly. This step was regarded at the time as a valuable gesture, but as little more, with the Warsaw Pact still in place and the world still fixed in its postwar balance of power. The decomposition of this balance of power has meant that article 43 could be activated in full; hence the frantic diplomacy of the past three days, stretching across the globe from Aspen to Irkutsk. The purpose of this diplomacy is to formulate sanctions — a word that must always embrace the implied use of force — in which all the world's power blocs can participate and which might bring Saddam to book.

A sanction must have an objective realisable in the worst outcome. The objective in this case is to contain Saddam's further ambitions in the Middle East and, if possible, to drive him off his existing conquest. The former is the overriding concern of the international community, the latter is primarily of regional importance and depends on the willingness of other regional leaders to make it happen.

The containment of Saddam poses a number of difficulties, none of them insuperable. True, a country in a state of war can survive extreme privations. Saddam can probably secure a leakage of food and other supplies across his long borders, especially while his neighbours live in a state of uncertainty over his next move. As long as Turkey and Saudi Arabia are at risk from Iraqi conventional and chemical weapons, they will be rightly afraid.

Eliminating that fear is thus the crucial task of any United Nations action. It must be built in the first instance on the deployment of American ships but, later, of a collective international force. Both Britain and France have warships in the Gulf. The Russians have bases in east Africa and ships in the Indian Ocean. Iraq's installations are vulnerable to special force operations.

The purpose of such sanctions is to place an embargo on all trade with Iraq by means of the closure of the Turkish frontier, the blockading of the Gulf and the reinforcement of the Saudi army with air power from bases in the eastern Mediterranean and the Gulf. Such a blockade is implied by declarations of the United Nations and is in full accord with the UN's articles. The purpose is to compel Saddam to acknowledge the integrity of his borders with his neighbours, to release his foreign nationals and, ultimately, to submit his quarrel with Kuwait to regional mediation. This mediation, first offered by Egypt and now by Jordan, is the only sensible way of meeting the post-containment objective of the UN sanctions. There is no reason why Saddam should not accede to it forthwith, if his intentions are really as pacific as he maintains.

Such intervention may be the last thing other Arab states would welcome. It reassures the intrusion from which most Arabs spent a quarter century breaking free. Yet most Middle East states are clearly terrified by the forces unleashed, first by the Iranian mullahs and now by an equal and opposite fanaticism, that of Baathist Iraq. The intervention is not that of Western imperialism. It is clearly in the interest of regional prosperity and stability. Not since Korea has the United Nations had both the will to assert the values of national integrity for which it was set up and the means to do so. This is the first great challenge of the post-Cold War era, a chance for a newly united world to resist aggression by the collective threat of force properly applied.

The state apparatus will undoubtedly be thrown into the scales against her. There is a good chance that the October elections will not be fair, assuming that they take place at all. The army, under Zia's successor General Mirza Aslam Beg, had lost patience with Miss Bhutto — otherwise the president would not have dared to dismiss the government and dissolve parliament. Since the army apparently considers Mr Jatoi preferable to Miss Bhutto, the dice are loaded against the lady.

Much will be heard in coming days of the charges against Miss Bhutto. There will be accusations that her government was riddled with corruption; that her husband, Asif Zardari, was a playboy, a scoundrel, or both; that she was too beholden to her Sindhi countrymen to stomach the repressive measures needed there; that instead of forcing concessions from India in the Kashmir dispute, she sent mangoes to Delhi, the equivalent of an olive branch.

While the first, at least, of these charges may be justified, her resistance to the army over Sind and Kashmir is in her favour. Taken together, they do not justify Mr Ishaq Khan's pre-emption of democracy, still less any attempt by the military to prevent her return to power. The most serious charge — that she failed to eliminate lawlessness in Sind — could also have been levelled at her predecessors. The truth is that she deployed large military forces there, but rightly refused to allow soldiers to usurp the functions of the civil authorities.

However angry Miss Bhutto may now feel at her shabby treatment by Pakistan's patriarchal elite, she must resist the temptation to provoke civil disorder in revenge for her downfall. Riots would give the armed forces precisely the excuse they need to lock up the PPP's leadership. Violence would only lead to the indefinite delay of the coming elections. Miss Bhutto's duty is to prepare with dignity to face her electorate.

UK defence lessons from the Gulf

From Field Marshal Lord Bramall

Sir, With the supremely confident and power-hungry Saddam Hussein on the prowl, if not the rampage, on the international scene, can anyone now doubt that we are wise to keep up our sleeve, a nuclear deterrent and also an ability to project, if need be, effective and respected armed forces to those areas which are so vital to our very existence?

Whatever else can or cannot be done, from outside the Arab world, to make Iraq think again and restore some vestige of autonomy to Kuwait, the "name of the game" must now be the territorial integrity of Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf states.

If this requires, as it surely must, some assistance from the United States in a deterrent or, if the worst came to the worst, reactive capacity, can there again be any doubt that the United States would wish for and deserve international and particularly European support, as well as, of course, vitality, that from the Arab world? We would then, I believe, feel obliged to become involved if only "over the horizon", as to some extent we already are with our naval forces in the Gulf.

Hence the continuing need for flexibility and mobility in our armed forces, so effectively dem-

onstrated eight years ago in the Falklands, and for these forces to be able to call on the latest technology in ships, aircraft, tanks and artillery, which is not only essential for any credible deterrence, but which indeed we ourselves would encounter from other forces in the area, if deterrence were to fail.

Although central Europe may, for the moment, be a good deal safer place than it appeared a few years back, the world remains inherently dangerous. The unexpected always turns up and you dispense with a reasonable and up-to-date ability to protect, with others, your country's vital interests at your peril, if not in the short term, then a little later when the "chickens come home to roost".

Her Majesty's ministers may feel that the recent, balanced statement on defence indicated that it had learnt the painful lessons of the 20s and 30s; but the point is, has the Treasury? For without adequate funding for our own highly professional defence forces over the next few years, we shall not be able to face the future with any real confidence.

Yours faithfully,
BRAMALL,
House of Lords.
August 6.

Guilt feelings about 'cot death'

From Mr and Mrs T. G. Williams

Sir, Our baby girl died in 1986 aged two months. On March 5, 1986, you published a cathartic "First Person" account of the episode (written within 12 hours of its occurrence) which evoked 40 personal letters, all reflecting the hurt and isolation felt by bereaved mothers.

This stimulated the establishment of our local cot-death support group, through which parents in the same predicament can meet and talk and befriend the newly-bereaved, as well as attend seminars addressed by leading experts in the field.

Such experience leads us to dispute any suggestion in Mr Coleridge Smith's letter (July 24), that grief-struck parents would falsify their all-too-vivid recollection of the circumstances of a cot death: next to grief, the overwhelming emotion is guilt that the cot-death was due to "something I've done", followed by bewilderment and then even anger that "it should happen to us".

All parents thus have a vested interest in contributing to an understanding of cot death, and we think it most unlikely that parents' testimony about sleeping position would be influenced by their perception of prevailing practice. Incidentally, the Coni group (Care of the Next Infant, set up by the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths) suggests that small children should sleep

on their sides, bolstered with a pillow in the back, thus getting the best of both worlds.

A major factor in precipitating guilt about cot death is the presence of the police, however trained or discreet, required under the provisions of the Coroner's Act to assess the scene. One day, perhaps, enlightened legislation will abolish this, as it rarely contributes anything that cannot be gleaned from a good paediatric autopsy, which may also provide useful material and information for research into the mechanism of cot death. A dozen infants a year suffering non-accidental deaths seem little justification for a police presence at the scene of over 1,500 cot deaths, and indeed many countries do not require it.

As parents we are willing to confront the possibility that the prone position may contribute to cot death, but we accept that more epidemiological research is required to confirm or refute this. We suspect that we speak for all parents of cot-death infants in wholeheartedly endorsing the research of competent and conscientious professionals such as Dr Peter Fleming (July 27). There is too much at stake to dismiss any line of enquiry that looks promising. Yours sincerely,
TIM WILLIAMS,
GAIL WILLIAMS,
Burnt Oak, Waldron,
Nr Heathfield, East Sussex.
July 27.

Death of Ian Gow

From Viscount Cranborne

Sir, Why do ministers and politicians persist in calling the IRA campaign of murder "purposeless" and "senseless"? Can anyone doubt that the bombs have undermined the determination of the British Government to defend the Union and that without the IRA there would have been no Anglo-Irish Agreement?

Ian Gow saw this more clearly than anyone and founded the Friends of the Union to help preserve the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

I hope those that agreed with him will not allow his cause to die with him. They can help by joining us and supporting us in our work.

Yours faithfully,
CRANBORNE,
Friends of the Union,
PO Box 1261, SW3 4JF.
August 3.

From Mr Ludovic Kennedy

Sir, I disagreed with Ian Gow on almost everything we discussed, but I enjoyed his company enor-

mously and am appalled by the manner of his death.

But one thing worries me. Mrs Thatcher and others have been saying that the IRA must never be allowed to win. Yet every army commander in Northern Ireland in recent years has been saying that militarily the IRA can never be defeated. If both these suppositions are true, one has to ask where do we go from here? Is there no alternative to the next 20 years being a repetition of the last 30?

Yours etc.,
LUDOVIC KENNEDY,
Glenferne,
Enochdhu, Perthshire.
August 1.

From Mr J. R. Ecroyd

Sir, Surely an electronics firm could produce a passive beam that placed underneath a car would detect movement. This device would then trigger a warning light in the car, alerting the driver to check the underside of the vehicle.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. ECROYD,
Lyvers Cote,
Ocle Pychard,
Hereford.

From Mr T. A. Ende

Sir, The Queen is known as the Duke of Lancaster and her family expenses come from the proceeds of the management of the estates of the Duchy of Lancaster. In the year 1760, King George III surrendered the management of the crown lands to the Crown Commissioners in return for the Civil List.

The proceeds of the crown lands amounted to £81.5 million in the financial year ended March 31, 1989, less expenditure of £22 million and the sum of £1 million was paid into the Consolidated Fund.

The Civil List was paid out of the Consolidated Fund and it covers the expenditure of the royal family on its official business only. In the same year it totalled £6,195,200 reduced to £5,795,200 by a contribution from the Queen of £400,000 to cover the expenses of members of her family not covered by the Civil List.

The Prince of Wales is the Duke of Cornwall and he takes his family and official expenses from the management of the estates of the Duchy of Cornwall. He always pays the surplus into the Consolidated Fund.

The taxpaying public is in effect the recipient of an enormous royal bounty each year.

Yours truly,
T. A. ENDE,
3 Langfurlong Court,
1 Adolphus Road,
Finsbury Park, N4.
July 25.

Ethnic harmony

From Mr J. Hunt

Sir, The formation of the Ethnic Harmony Campaign, with its object of the scrapping of the 1976 Race Relations Act and allied legislation (report, early editions, July 25), deserves widespread support.

One pernicious effect of the legislation, as anyone who has to deal with local arts councils will know, is the diversion to purely ethnic projects of funds which should be used for the promotion of arts in general.

A whole bureaucracy has grown up within the councils for no other purpose than to encourage and highlight cultural differences, and I am quite sure many minorities feel that racial differences and animosities are exacerbated rather than healed by these policies.

Here in Birmingham for example, West Midlands Arts seems over-aware of the existence of Asian and African culture, to the exclusion of a number of other quite numerous ethnic minorities within our borders, giving rise to widespread accusations of "favouritism" and "discrimination".

Yours faithfully,
J. HUNT
(Administrator and librarian),
The Birmingham and Midland
Institute,
Margaret Street,
Birmingham 3.
July 25.

an utterly materialistic conception of man himself and his life.

Yours sincerely,
FMARO CONTE,
Bishop's House, 156 King's Gate,
Aberdeen.

From Mr J. Lees-Milne

Sir, It is splendid that Professor Hills advocates positive population control, a courageous thing to do in view of the inevitable protests from religious bigots and ethnic ostriches. He is of course right in emphasising once again that the indirect cause of nearly all the world's current ills is over-population.

It has already caused spoliation of the earth's surface, elimination of countless animal and plant species, increasing lawlessness and terrorism (the too-many-rats-in-a-cage syndrome), pollution of soil, rivers, oceans, air and the limited ozone on which all living things depend for existence. Over 80 years I have witnessed the sure and not so very slow decline. A few nations are now toying with these appalling problems — but only toying.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES LEES-MILNE,
19 Lansdown Crescent,
Bath, Avon..

which would attract the enthusiastic involvement of almost every child. The object of sport at school is enjoyment for all, by the mastery of skills and co-operative effort, not to mention obeying the rules.

But the effect does not end there. The medical profession, faced with evidence of declining fitness in children, is mustering more and more studies which show that sport and exercise in childhood help to reduce the likelihood of heart disease, one of the greatest sources of chronic ill health and mortality in our society. How ironic that this might be thought the moment to drop physical education from the compulsory curriculum. An own goal?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER BANNISTER,
Pembroke College,
Oxford.

Yours faithfully,
BILL POLLARD,
22 Brunswick Terrace,
Cambridge.
August 4.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE August 6: The Queen held a Council at 6.30 pm.

There were present: The Right Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe, MP (Lord President), the Right Hon Sir Cecil Parkinson, MP (Secretary of State for Transport), the Right Hon Lynda Chalker, MP (Minister for Overseas Development), and the Right Hon Nicholas Scott, MP (Minister of State, Department of Social Security).

Mr Geoffrey de Deney was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

Birthdays today

Mr Greg Chappell, cricketer, 42; Mr Neil Clark, former chairman, Johnson Matthey, 56; Sir Maurice Dorman, former Governor General of Malta, 78; Professor H.L. Elvin, former director, London University Institute of Education, 85; Sir Ian Fraser, former chairman, Lazard Brothers, 67; the Right Rev A.A.K. Graham, Bishop of Newcastle, 61; Sir Paul Hains, 70; Mr M.P. Kendall, broadcaster, 66; Mr Owen Luder, architect, 62; Mr A.G. McCrae, former chairman, British Ports Association, 81; Dame Ella Mackintosh, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 86; Vice-Admiral Sir Hector MacLean, 82; Mr Matthew Parry, former MP, 41; Mr Nick Ross, broadcaster, 43; Mr Alexi Sayle, comedian, 38; Baroness Sear, 77; Mr Philip Snow, author, 73; Mr Walter Swinburn, jockey, 29; Mr Alan Thomas, chairman, J. Walter Thompson, 46; Mr J.A. Young, chairman, Young and Company's Brewery, 69.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Ayrton Paris, Granville Bantock, composer, London, 1868; Louis Leakey, archaeologist and anthropologist, Kabete, Kenya, 1903; Ralph Johnson Bunche, diplomat, Nobel Peace laureate 1950, Detroit, 1904.

DEATHS: Robert Blake, parliamentarian and admiral, at sea off Plymouth, 1657; Caroline, queen consort of George IV, London, 1821; Joseph-Marie Jacquot, silk weaver, Oullins, France, 1834; Alexander Blok, Russian poet, 1921; Konstantin Stanislavsky, actor, co-founder of the Moscow Arts Theatre, Moscow, 1938; Sir Rabindranath Tagore, poet, philosopher, Nobel laureate 1913, Calcutta 1941.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Beardmore-Gray and Miss Y.F. Kidani The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of Mr and Mrs Duncan Beardmore-Gray, of Wark, Hexham, and Yuki, daughter of Mr and Mrs Yoshio Kidani, of Winkfield, Berkshire.

Mr S.C. Bowater and Miss M.J. Wagner The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs Frank Bowater, of Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, and Molly, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Wagner, of Dayton, Ohio.

Dr M. Harris and Miss P.A. Hutchings The engagement is announced between Mark, son of the Bishop of Oxford, and Dr Jo Harris, and Priscilla, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.J. Hutchings, of Hartley, Plymouth.

Mr M. Olii and Miss M. Kornedowska The engagement is announced between Marco, only son of Mr and Mrs A. Olii, of Lansdowne Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill, and Marysia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Korzeniowska, of Watling Street, Dartford, Kent.

Mr D.E. Gray and Miss D. Theobald The marriage took place on Saturday, August 4, at St Nicholas' Church, St Nicholas' Lane, Laindon, Essex, between Mr David Edward Gray, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Gray, and Miss Diane Theobald, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Theobald, of Basildon, Essex.

Dr P.J. Murphy and Miss J.C. Oyer The marriage took place on August 4, 1990, at Christ Church, Clifton, Bristol, of Dr Peter Murphy, younger son of Dr and Mrs Desmond Murphy, and Miss Jane Oyer, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Oyer.

Runcie seeks state aid for cathedrals

A PLEA for Government aid to save Britain's cathedrals from "falling into a spiral of decay" was made yesterday by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie.

A survey of 21 of the 42 Anglican cathedrals showed at least £70 million must be spent in the next decade on preservation work. Dr Runcie said that state aid should be extended to cathedrals and other religious buildings of similar national significance.

Several cathedrals have recently launched appeals for urgent repair work. Winchester is seeking £7 million, Salisbury £6.5 million and Gloucester £4 million.

The cost of maintaining the fabric and contents of cathedrals runs to many millions of pounds a year, he said. Private generosity, though still im-

OBITUARIES

Audrey Blackman, potter and sculptor, has died at her home near Oxford at the age of 82. She was born on July 28, 1907.

AUDREY Blackman will be remembered particularly for sculptures in bronze, dating from the earlier part of her long artistic career, and for the charming ceramic figures which she made in her later years, using original techniques described in her book *Rolled Pottery Figures* (1978).

Audrey Babette Blackman was the daughter of Dr Richard Seligman and his wife Hilda (nee McDowell). She was the eldest and the only girl among five children. Her father's Jewish background and her mother's Irish Catholic one seem an unlikely combination in the early years of the century, but her childhood in Surrey was exceptionally happy, the family home being first near Leatherhead and, later, on Wimbledon Common. Her father, a chemical engineer and metallurgist, founded the Alumina Plant and Vessel Company and saw it grow to become the multi-national group of companies now called APV-Baker plc. There was strong artistic talents on both sides of the family, and her maternal grandfather, himself a sculptor, had arranged the British sculpture for the Paris Exhibition of 1851. Audrey herself painted from childhood and first experimented with clay modelling in her teens.

Having failed to obtain a place to read history at Oxford, she was sent to study sculpture, initially in Austria at the Kunsthochschule, Vienna. Here she also became deeply involved with music and for a while contemplated becoming a professional singer; music remained an inspiration throughout her life, but in the 1920s she returned to sculpting and studied between 1926 and 1930 at the Goldsmiths' College, London, and at Reading University from 1931 to 1935.

Judge retires

Judge Dewi Alun Thomas has retired from the circuit bench on the South Eastern Circuit. He was appointed a judge in 1972.

Madhav Prasad Birla, leading Indian industrialist and philanthropist, died aged 72 in Calcutta on July 30. He was born on July 4, 1918.

MADHAV Prasad Birla contributed substantially towards helping Calcutta's poor. He was one of India's most generous philanthropists, shying away from personal publicity as he contributed hugely to a wide range of causes. As a young man he was greatly influenced by Mahatma Gan-

dhiji and Sardar Patel, who became deputy to Jawaharlal Nehru in the first government after independence.

One of the landmarks of Calcutta, the Birla Planetaryium, was financed by him. He also built the Belle Vue Clinic, Calcutta's principal nursing home, and established the Bombay Hospital, one of the largest in Asia. He set up the M.P. Birla Foundation, under which an education society and medical society were established to help found

the Dhaka University, and the Birla Jute and Industries Ltd, flagship of the family group, while still in his teens and turned it into a multi-product corporation with interests in cement (with India's second largest cement plant at Saths in Madhya Pradesh), carbide, gas, diversified jute products

and exports. Companies that grew up under his guidance included Universal Cables, Vindhya Telelinks, Hindustan Gum and Chemicals and Birla Odessa, a 100 per cent export-oriented joint venture with the Soviet Union.

Birla's prolonged illness and lack of a direct heir had led to speculation about the future ownership of his group. But a smooth transition is believed to have been worked out within the family, preventing a corporate upheaval.

Ancient church found at Whithorn

By JOHN YOUNG

A 320-acre sheep farm with a spectacular

view over Snake Pass and Ladybower

reservoir in the Peak District National Park, has been acquired by the National Trust from Severn Trent Water Limited.

It is the first land to be acquired by the trust from a water company since the industry was privatized and may well point the way to many similar purchases if the companies decide to realize their assets.

The trust is ready to adopt a strongly

interventionist policy to protect areas of

high landscape value from speculative

purchasers, and to ensure continued

public access.

Crookhill Farm was originally part of

the Chatsworth Estate, owned by the

Dukes of Devonshire, and was acquired

by the then water board when the

Derwent Valley was flooded to create the

Ladybower Reservoir.

The price has not been disclosed,

but it is likely that the trust paid the

full market value, estimated at about £1,000

an acre.

The money will come from legacies,

the Government-funded Countryside

Commission and the Peak District

Appeal, which was launched in 1975 and

has funded the acquisition of nearly

4,500 acres, including Kinder Scout, the

Snake Pass and Dovedale.

Considerable concern has been ex-

pressed that the privatized water

companies would begin selling off the

hundreds of thousands of acres they own

in upland Britain to developers and

purchasers of second homes. But James

Turner, the trust's East Midlands re-

gional director, said that he did not think

the threat was that severe.

"But clearly quite a lot is going to

come on to the market, and I like to

think that through our contact with the

water companies, we will be among the

first to hear about it," Mr Turner said.

"I certainly knew about this farm very

quickly and acted immediately."

The trust owns 34,000 acres in the

Peak District, including about 12 per

cent of the national park. That compares

with a third of the Lake District, much of

which was acquired early this century. "I

would not necessarily regard 30 per cent

as our target here," Mr Turner said. "Our

approach is to acquire land wherever we

regard it as important."

Of the 34,000 acres owned by the trust,

28,000 consist of high moorland. Mr

Highley Sugden, president of the appeal,

said that the moorland was suffering

from pollution, too many visitors and

overgrazing. But in areas being regen-

erated, heather, ryegrass and bilberries

are returning and supporting increasing

numbers of insects and grouse.

Farmers, despite EC subsidies, were

affected by the recession in the industry

and often had difficulty in maintaining

buildings, stone walls and fences. "When

the trust takes over, it can help them

financially for regret, not grounds for

lasting criticism. The general

himself, with his habitual

sense of realism, admitted this

when, after his return to power in 1958, he appointed de

Margerie to the key post of

ambassador to South

regime. This was before I

knew him, but I think that

Roland was motivated by his

upbringing and training.

Raised in the traditions of

the senior French civil service —

his father had been ambas-

sador in Berlin — it must have

seemed to him, in the cruel

dilemma which faced so many

Frenchmen that the terrible sum-

mer, that the line of loyalty lay

through the established

French government rather

than the lonely claims of

General de Gaulle and his

glorious rebellion. Roland's

abilities would obviously have

been of great value to that

infant cause. That he chose to

withhold them was a reason

for regret, not grounds for

lasting criticism.

The general himself, with his habitual

sense of realism, admitted this

when, after his return to power in 1958, he appointed de

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Raised in the traditions of

The constructive clean-up

As the search for methods to purify contaminated land goes on, Mick Hurrell finds a manufacturing company that converts the soil into building blocks

Concern about the potential threat to public health and the environment from industrially contaminated land and adjacent sites has widened as pressure to redevelop the land has increased.

Such land is the legacy of every industrialised nation. In Britain alone, 250,000 acres on 50,000 sites are estimated to be polluted by waste from gasworks, power stations, chemical and processing plants, engineering works, mines and landfill. Potentially lethal contaminants are found on these sites. The common ingredients of a contaminated land cocktail are poisonous heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, arsenic and mercury, oils and tars, including phenols, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), acids, pesticides, cyanide, methane and asbestos.

This international problem is tackled in widely differing ways. Some countries, notably The Netherlands, Sweden, West Germany and the United States, have begun ambitious programmes to solve their contaminated land problems once and for all. They have invested in developing new soil-cleaning technologies and committed billions of pounds to huge clean-up programmes.

Britain largely persists with the cheapest option. The contaminated land is left where it is and covered with a layer of clean sand, or it is excavated and buried in a tip elsewhere.

The aim in The Netherlands and West Germany is to restore soil – a finite and non-renewable resource – to a condition where it can be used for any purpose.

In Britain, the usual policy is to treat contaminated soil just sufficiently for the next intended use. Contamination was ignored, missed or simply forgotten at hundreds, possibly thousands, of formerly derelict sites built on since the second world war. The vast majority of these sites will never cause any health problem whatsoever. But the unthinkable could happen.

In January a report from the House of Commons environment select committee on contaminated

land policy concluded: "We find there has been a lack of policy on contaminated land. We do not wish to be alarmist. Our concern is that by defining contaminated land narrowly and solely in relation to end use, the Department of the Environment may be underestimating a genuine environmental problem."

Dr Stephan Jefferies, of the European Centre for Pollution Research at Queen Mary College, London, echoes this view. "We now have to ask the question whether what we have done is good enough for tomorrow. We should promote clean practices and make today's practitioners profitable because of it."

However, any out-of-sight-out-of-mind policy will have to change with the advent of strict new European Community legislation on hazardous and toxic waste.

Eusebio Murillo Matilla, of the Community's environment directorate in Brussels, says: "Soil has been the poor member of the environmental family until now. Some problems are so extreme that they may take 50 to 100 years to clean up completely." The most important measure from the Community is a directive defining civil liability for "injury" to the environment caused by waste, due to be introduced at the beginning of next year.

The directive will mean unlimited liability on a waste-producer for the life history of that waste and on those in control of contaminated land when damage is caused. Liability will not be passed on like a baton when poisoned land is sold, as is the case in Britain now.

It will also mean that the tipping of contaminated soil will become more expensive as stricter controls are placed on licensed waste tips. Some fear this may increase the already widespread and dangerous practice of illegal dumping in towns and in the countryside.

In addition there is a duty of care on waste-producers in the forthcoming Environmental Protection Act, which is expected to become law later this year, and the government has agreed that a



Debris of industrial society: Britain largely persists with the cheapest cleaning methods.Inset: Keith McNeil and his raw material

formal register of contaminated sites is needed. So the problem is unlikely to spread. However, the huge clean-up task remains.

"The overall effect," says James Cameron, a barrister at the Centre for International Environmental Law at King's College, London, "is that land purchasers will insist on contamination being treated before buying, to avoid potential liability. And anyone who comes up with an effective treatment method at a cost that makes it attractive to developers and public authorities is going to do very well out of it."

Hence the search is on to develop economical once-and-for-all clean-up technology. Despite all this world-wide research, investment has yet to

produce techniques that can do more than neutralise some of the many different poisoned land contaminants.

Invariably their main drawbacks are the processing costs the time it takes to complete the treatment, the limited range of contaminants or the soil types to which they are suited. Some can also produce their own polluting by-products.

One possible advance comes from a British company that has developed and patented a processing plant that it says will recycle any lethally contaminated soil into harmless value-added products as diverse as roof tiles and anti-skid road surfacing.

Dunston Ceramics has combined the glassmaker's art with a unique energy recycling technology and novel thermo-chemistry in a process called Detox. Keith McNeil, the founder of the company, says the process could give Britain a world lead in clean-up technology.

Mr McNeil, a glass technologist, began designing a low-energy, clean-emission glass furnace on the principle of total recycling six years ago, and he found that contaminated land proved a perfect raw material.

At the moment, the process costs about 50 per cent more than burying the soil in Britain, he says. But he believes that as the cost of dumping increases under the proposed legislation, the economic

equation will look very different. He points to parts of mainland Europe, where dumping waste legally can already cost four times more than the new process.

Many contaminants, such as lead, selenium and arsenic, are commonplace additives in glass manufacture, along with sand, chalk and lime.

The glass by-product can have many uses. In its simplest form it can be used in road-making or aggregate for concrete. With controlled cooling, or annealing, the glass can be made into high-density wear-resistant construction blocks. By further processing, the product range can be extended to refractory cements, cast pipe sections and industrial mouldings and tiles.

MONGOLIAN conservationists are worried that their country's moves towards a market economy will have serious consequences for their environment.

Japanese companies are leading a rush for Mongolia's coal, oil and mineral reserves.

Mongolia, a country almost the size of Western Europe, is the first Asian socialist state to make the move to a multi-party system. Democratic elections were held at the end of last month.

All political parties, even the communists who have ruled the country for the last 69 years, have pledged to introduce a market economy and open the region up to the West.

The fear is that in doing so environmental issues will be low on the list of priorities for the new government, which is comprised of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, but has given a voice to opposition parties in the legislature. Western technology and United States dollars are at the top of the list of needs.

Before Mongolia's pro-democracy movement began in March, prospecting and mining were undertaken largely by joint ventures with the Soviet Union. Now Japanese companies are involved in negotiations over prospecting for and mining coal and minerals. Mongolia's biggest coal deposit is in the Gobi desert, an estimated 10 billion tons of coking coal in six seams suitable for strip mining, which conservationists fear will prove damaging to the environment. Mongolia also has rich reserves of copper and molybdenum and undisclosed quantities of gold and uranium, which are interesting western prospectors. British and

American oil companies are bidding for rights to prospect for oil in the south and east of the country.

Previous uses of Mongolia's natural resources have not been without problems. Ulan Bator, the capital and largest city, of half a million inhabitants, regularly suffers adverse effects from using coal as its main fuel.

Every winter, the capital's skies are thick with acrid smoke from the city's two lignite-burning power stations and the many chimneys of the traditional round felt tents or *ghers* that surround the settlement on all sides. The brown smog sits in the valley for weeks on end because in the dominant central Asian high-pressure system there is little wind to

disperse it. Respiratory ailments and the effects of acid rain are therefore common in Ulan Bator, problems the city's environmental groups hope may be alleviated with western technology.

A trickle of high-tech assistance has started to help Mongolia assess the status of some of its endangered wildlife species.

A project started last winter by Dr George Schaller of Wildlife Conservation International, a New York-based group, is using sophisticated radio-telemetry techniques to monitor threatened Mongolian species.

The vice-president of the Mongolian Association for Conservation of Nature and Environment (Macne), Mr Tseren-

A NEW TYPE of compact disc player, which stores a mix of sound, video, text and graphics and is aimed at home users, is to go on sale before Christmas.

The £700 player, described as the first home "multi-media" system, uses a CD-ROM (compact disc, read only memory), which, unlike ordinary compact discs used to record only music, is also able to store large amounts of information, up to 500,000 pages of typed text or 14 hours of speech-quality sound.

The player looks like a video cassette recorder and is designed to plug into existing television sets and hi-fi systems. It is essentially a home computer with a CD-ROM drive rolled into one box, although it is operated by a remote control handset rather than a keyboard.

The product represents a big gamble by the manufacturers, the computer company, Commodore, as nobody knows whether there is a home market for such multimedia products, even those using the now familiar compact discs. One in five UK homes now has a CD player and CDs outsell LP records.

As long as this is borne in mind the lower-cost OCR systems can be worth a look. They can cost no more than a basic computer printer. Within the next five years it is likely that systems which can recognise handwriting will be available for a similar sum.

When Philips launched CD Video, a format that combined compact disc quality sound with video, it flopped.

Commodore, which hopes the demand will come from

success lies in the type and range of discs available to use with it.

The company is promising 100 launch titles, including games, encyclopedias, atlases and cookery books. CD versions of the Bible, Shakespeare and The Guinness Book of Records are promised later. Disc prices will start from around £25. Next Technology, a Cambridge computer company, is producing a sampler disc to be included with the player, covering selections on Bach, the rain forests, space travel, Egypt, sport and the Victoria & Albert Museum.

The items available are arranged on screen as a set of small pictures. Selections are



Abortion pill success

New birth control methods on the way

The development of an abortion pill, which could be available to women in Britain within two years, has been hailed by family planning experts as possibly the most important advance of its kind since the launch of the oral contraceptive 30 years ago.

Although the French-made RU486 pill is not a contraceptive, and can be used only under strict medical supervision, it offers a new response to unwanted pregnancies, and may be modified in the next few years to prevent pregnancy. As such, it is an example of the urgent search now started for a range of new methods of contraception.

Researchers in Britain, France, Scandinavia and the United States are working on contraceptive injections, implantable capsules and intra-uterine devices, designed to give protection for months and even years.

The work is urgent because of the rising demand for cheap, safe and effective contraceptives, in many of the world's poorest and most densely populated countries. According to a recent United Nations report, a billion more people are likely to be born in the 1990s, at the rate of about 250,000 every day.

By the year 2000, the number of women in developing countries using some form of contraceptive must increase to 325 million compared with 326 million, the report says. Family planning budgets in these countries need to be doubled from the present level to about £5.35 billion a year.

The lack of contraception means that an estimated 40 to 60 million induced abortions are taking place every year. The International Planned Parenthood Federation says that about 200,000 women die from consequent complications.

The need for barrier methods of contraception has never been greater because of the spread of Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Among the new forms of contraceptive emerging are long-acting drugs implanted into the body, which slowly release steroids to prevent or inhibit ovulation. The best-known is Norplant, a capsule the size and shape of a matchstick implanted in a woman's upper arm. Developed in Finland, it has been approved for use in 14 countries.

A similar device, a biodegradable pellet the size of a grain of rice, is designed to last for a year, and is now undergoing clinical trials. Improved versions, which could last for two years, are being researched.

By the end of this year, a vaginal ring containing the contraceptive hormone levonorgestrel could be available in Britain. It is undergoing trials at Hammersmith hospital in London.

The ring is placed inside the vagina, where it releases the hormone at a carefully controlled rate for 90 days, after which it is removed and replaced.

A contraceptive that is injected once a month is also going through clinical trials in many countries in a programme supervised by the World Health Organisation. The contraceptive is considered an advance on depo-provera, an injectable contraceptive used by more than ten million women in developing nations, but which has been linked with increased risks of breast cancer.

Dr Mahmoud Fathalla, director of the WHO human reproduction programme, says: "What we now have can only be described as a contraceptive revolution when compared to the methods available 40 years ago."

THOMSON PRENTICE

stop at an exhibit and find out further details about it. "Nobody wants to come home after a hard day's work and sit in front of a computer," says Peter Bratt, an executive producer at Next Technology, "but they will if it looks like a video cassette recorder and is simple to use."

However, computer buffs will still be able to link it to a keyboard, a mouse, a floppy disc drive or a modem.

The player will take compact discs but will not play existing CD-ROM discs. This is not too much of a problem because most existing CD-ROMs are produced for specialist markets such as medical libraries.

But, like the start of many new technologies, a standard has yet to be established. Philips, along with several large Japanese electronics companies, has developed a rival and incompatible format called Compact Disc Interactive (CD-I), to be launched in Europe in 1992.

Commodore calls its version CDTV, standing for Commodore Dynamic Total Vision – if anyone assumed it stood for Compact Disc TV the company would not be unhappy.

If the Commodore system sells, consumers could be involved in a re-run of the video format battle that took place during the early 1980s.

GEORGE COLE

Democracy and high technology may prove dangerous for Mongolia's rare animals

Fears for eastern wildlife



Living in a wilderness, yet under threat from impending development: the wild camel (left) and the wild ass

American oil companies are bidding for rights to prospect for oil in the south and east of the country.

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Computers learning to read

A COMPUTER could soon be reading this story. Optical character-reading technology, which allows computers to recognize and interpret the printed word, is tumbling in price and growing in the features it offers.

Hand-held optical character readers (OCRs) can be bought for less than £200 as an add-on to any standard personal computer. They are a development of image scanning technology, but may prove far more useful.

While a scanner creates an electronic photocopy of the image or text being scanned and allows the scanned image to be edited, resized and manipulated, OCR devices take text from the page and place it in a word-processing file so that can be edited with standard word-processing software later.

This could eventually represent a boon for a wide range of people such as students, business people and data-processing operators. If OCRs can be made to rekey existing text, human operators can concern themselves with the more creative task of adapting and editing the text.

A perfect example of this is the student doing research for a thesis. Rather

The heatwave has been caused by what is known as a 'blocking anti-cyclone'. Bill Burroughs puts it in a global context

The boiling weather in a rut

A perfect example of how the weather in Britain can get stuck in a rut is the recent heatwave. The obvious cause of this summer's burst of heat and sun is a stationary area of high pressure that is interrupting our normal changeable westerly flow of weather.

This type of atmospheric pattern is known as a "blocking anti-cyclone" and it has been closely studied by meteorologists since the late 1940s.

For three decades blocking anti-cyclones were regarded principally as a feature of the westerly flow in mid latitudes. In recent years, however, it has become increasingly evident that they are part of much wider global climatic processes.

The basic characteristics of blocking are well defined:

Blocking has happened because the circulation of westerly winds has fluctuated between a strong near-circular pattern and a weaker meandering form. The weather is frequently associated with blocking conditions when the upper level westerlies split into two branches, sandwiching a static region of high pressure between them.

Typical blocks last for about two weeks, although, as we are now seeing, they can last much longer. In the northern hemisphere their position is influenced by the distribution of the continents and mountain ranges.

They most frequently occur close to the Greenwich meridian and in the eastern Pacific, although Atlantic blocks are approximately twice as common as the Pacific variety.

Computer models of the global climate have become increasingly effective in handling blocking anti-cyclones. The standard weather forecasts up to seven days ahead predict their behaviour reasonably well.

This is because over a few days they are sustained by the motion of existing low pressure systems moving round their edges. On a longer time scale, a wide-ranging study of

the extreme winter of 1977 in North America suggested the important factor was the speed of the winds in the upper atmosphere winds.

At a certain critical speed it appeared there was a strong possibility of the flow switching into a meandering pattern. But attempts to use this approach to produce monthly forecasts have proved far less successful.

Clearly, blocking is not simply a matter of modelling the obvious feature of the mid-latitude flow.

The answer to the question may lie in taking proper account of tropical influences. This conclusion is the result of two significant meteorological developments. The first, at the end of 1982, was an important example of what are termed El Niño events, in which a huge area of the tropical

Pacific warmed to unprecedented levels. The second was a growing appreciation of the importance of the quasi-cyclic behaviour of tropical weather over periods of about 40 to 50 days.

The possibility that El Niño events influenced tropical weather is not a new theory. Because the tropical oceans act as the boiler house of the global atmosphere, the fact that the equatorial Pacific warmed up roughly every three or four years is expected to produce measurable effects elsewhere.

However, attempts to show connections with other weather anomalies were not convincing. What made the 1982-83 event so important was its size.

The consequences of this warming brought home to meteorologists the importance of tropical sea surface temperature anomalies in establishing unusual global weather patterns.

During 1982-83 rainfall patterns in the tropics and subtropics were altered and there were extreme droughts in Australia, Indonesia, India, south-eastern Africa and Central America.

More important, abnormal circulation patterns at higher



The satellite says it all: a photograph of Europe taken from space shows the heatwave continent

latitudes, including exceptionally cold winter weather in the east of the United States and torrential rain in California, convinced many meteorologists that the interaction between the tropics and the rest of the globe played an important part in extreme weather patterns.

The realisation that tropical quasi-cycles are a factor in extra-tropical circulation patterns developed in parallel. These fluctuations were first observed in the upper atmosphere and were reported in 1971. They attracted little attention at the time. Subsequent satellite measurements have shown they are

part of wider patterns. Waves of cloudiness develop every 40-50 days in the Indian Ocean. These intensify and for four to six weeks sweep eastward across the Pacific and peter out before reaching South America.

In the early 1980s these oscillations were found to be influential in a number of other phenomena. Not only might they be implicated in the triggering of El Niño events but also their timing seemed to affect the onset and strength of the monsoon over the Indian sub-continent.

In addition, at times when these oscillations were most

pronounced, there is increased evidence of blocking in mid latitudes. The physical causes of the quasi-periodic fluctuations in both tropical cloudiness and sea surface temperatures in the Pacific are still being debated by scientists.

We cannot predict their progress with any certainty yet, and because they have a time scale of months and years they still have important implications for longer-range weather forecasting.

On the positive side they suggest that, with better understanding of the links between tropical and extra-tropical weather patterns, it may be possible to use the

Expensive Big Bang

Scientists are trying to reproduce the conditions at the start of the universe

The most expensive machine ever conceived for research, with which scientists believe they could unlock the secrets of the creation of the universe by reproducing the conditions that existed for a fraction of a second after the Big Bang, has taken a step nearer to becoming a reality.

Even by the standards of defence and space research, the plans to spend more than £4 billion on the largest version of a type of machine called an atom smasher are ambitious.

But the good news for the scientists planning the project, known formally as the Superconducting Super Collider (SSC), came last week with the approval of the American government to spend a further £173 million on the development of the machine over the next year. That almost ensures that there will eventually be approval for the whole thing to be built.

The technologies needed to build this extraordinary apparatus are being perfected by a team working with Dr Roy Schwitters, the director of the new SSC laboratory near Dallas, Texas.

Although the supercollider has been described by President Bush as "a concrete manifestation of America's scientific leadership", the project has its critics in the United States Congress.

While particle physics is recognised as one of the pinnacles of high intellectual endeavour from which it would be unthinkable of the Americans to retreat, there is an argument that intellectual leadership in future will have to be satisfied by sharing some of the costs by international collaboration.

The supercollider is intended to create a sub-atomic fireball, or the conditions that were so hot in the millionth of a second after the Big Bang that neutrons and protons, the basic building blocks of all the matter around us, had not yet condensed out of a sea of things called quarks and gluons, which do not exist in nature.

To generate the primordial plasma from which the atoms evolved as we know them, the SSC will use an accelerator in an underground tunnel. 54

miles in circumference, to be built beneath the plains at Waxahachie, south of Dallas.

Enormous energy is needed for the powerful magnets that will hurl two beams of protons in opposite directions, with velocities approaching the speed of light or an energy of 20 trillion electron volts (TeV), until they collide.

After creating the mini-Big Bang, researchers will record the shower of short-lived exotic particles that last for only a few millionths of a second, but that belong to the families grouped as hadrons, leptons, photons and others, like the W and Z particles.

They will provide physicists with a new window on understanding the structure of matter by looking at inner space, thus complementing the observations of the astronomers in looking at outer space.

For 60 years scientists have been building ever larger particle accelerators to explore the fundamental structure of matter; the first ones were shoe-box size. Over this time, they have devised ways of achieving a ten-million-fold increase in the energy of their accelerators.

The use of colliding beams has been one of the key recent advances, and the one employed by the giant electron-positron LEP accelerator, which came on stream at the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, at Geneva, last August.

High energy is the most important factor in reproducing the critical state to generate particles that do not exist in the natural state but are believed to have existed in the initial fireball from which the universe was born.

As the infant universe cooled down, those primordial particles disintegrated spontaneously to give rise to the diverse forms of matter we encounter in everyday life.

One of the goals of the SSC will be to hunt for particle known as the Higgs boson, which has been suggested by Professor Peter Higgs of Edinburgh University, as necessary to explain how quarks, leptons, W and Z particles and others acquired mass. Confirming the existence of the Higgs particle would not be possible at energies below 40 TeV.

PEARCE WRIGHT

The mice in sheep's clothing

How genetic engineering has made laboratory rodents prematurely bald



Stripped off: the mouse with transplanted sheep genes

SCIENTIFIC curiosity about hair growth, long buoyed by the prospect of a baldness cure, may soon be satisfied by an unlikely laboratory creation, a custom-built mouse carrying sheep genes.

Australian researchers, aiming to unravel the genetic basis of hair growth, have transplanted into mice a sheep gene whose normal role is to direct the production of a vital ingredient of wool inside sheep follicles. Instead of making mice woolly, however, the gene makes them prematurely bald.

Barry Powell and George Rogers, of the Adelaide University, the researchers who genetically engineered the mice, say the unexpected baldness is caused by a surfeit of sheep keratin produced inside mouse follicles as a result of the newly acquired sheep gene. Sheep keratin makes mouse hair extremely fragile, unnaturally wavy and liable to break just below the skin's surface.

The research reveals how sensitive the properties of hair fibres are to their keratin composition. All hair fibres

are made according to the same general plan, with keratin proteins as the main building blocks of their core structures.

Sheep produce several keratins, some of which form the filaments at the heart of the core structure while others act as a kind of molecular scaffold holding the structure together. Dr Rogers and Dr Powell say transgenic mice carrying many copies of the sheep gene, about 250, make large amounts of one particular filament keratin but much

reduced amounts of the scaffold keratins needed for a strong fibre.

The sheep gene is not enough to cause baldness. Mice with only a few copies of the gene produce little sheep keratin without hair loss. If a keratin-composition imbalance is the root cause of baldness in the researchers' transgenic mice, synchrony in follicle activity does little to help. Unlike in sheep and humans, where active "hair-producing" follicles are sprinkled among dormant ones and

continuous refurbishment of the coat occurs, the follicles of mice and other rodents act in concert. Waves of new hair thus grow in regular cycles. At the ends of the cycles, mice are prone to losing their entire coats if their hair for some reason becomes fragile.

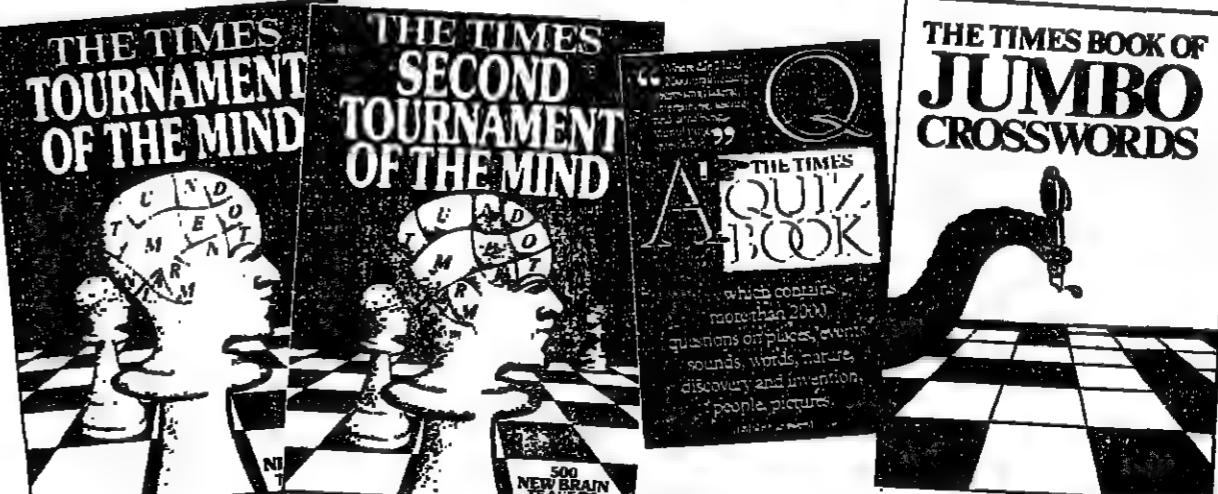
Dr Paul Bowden, of Dundee University, says the research holds little promise for curing baldness. There are some human hair disorders in which the same kind of hair-twisting and fragility is seen, but it is not yet known whether these are the human counterparts of the type of baldness induced by sheep genes in the mouse.

The factors causing most types of human baldness are a mystery. As men age, their hair usually falls out because the chemical signal that initiates the assembly of new hair fibres inside follicles fails and the follicles themselves then die. The hair cycle is controlled by hormones, growth factors and chemical modulators not yet defined. Dr Bowden says.

DAVID CONCAR

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Star Wars success

AN improved and smaller version of a "Star Wars" projectile has been successfully tested. But the 40lb missile, intended to destroy nuclear weapons in flight, is still considered too heavy.

During a 14-second test, at the Edwards Air Force Base in California, the device hovered in a hangar-size building using its thruster rockets to point at a simulated target.

Holding the heat

SOLAR heating systems suffer from the problem that the sun shines most in the summer, when the heat is not needed, and least in the winter.

DESIGNER pigs, producing lean pork with less saturated fat, are getting closer. According to American scientists, an unusual diet of whole soybeans, cooked in a special processor known as an extruder, is producing pork with a significantly higher ratio of polyunsaturated to saturated fat. The group, from the University of Illinois and the Harlan Moore Heart Re-

faster track

SCIENTISTS at a leading

computer system can reduce the time taken to design a new car from 68 months to four years, say British and West German specialists working for Ford. The car company has developed the system with Sony. The system, which has cost £10 million to produce, can build in requirements such as client requests or safety needs. The first cars designed from the project are expected to roll off Ford's production line in the mid-1990s.

In vitro bamboo

MATTHEW MAY

Birth of a high street hit

Liz Smith finds a happy marriage of high fashion appeal and mass-market pricing, and describes the evolution of Number 5002, a boxy, gilt-buttoned best seller

When eight women turned up at a chic charity fashion show and lunch hosted by the designer Valentino at the Savoy earlier this summer wearing the same gilt-buttoned, cream Chanel jacket, it was obvious that, even at just under £1,000 a throw, here was one of fashion's serious best sellers. None of the women need have been over-bothered about a confrontation with a twin, as they all looked different. The appeal of that easy Chanel cardigan style is that it forms the impeccably tailored base for a variety of styles, one jacket serving as the top half of a suit, or as the partner for anything from a simple pair of jeans to the glamorous drift of a short chiton skirt.

For much the same reason, even as the temperature climbed into the nineties in London and Paris last week, in two key branches of Marks & Spencer (Marble Arch and Boulevard Haussmann), the best seller on the fashion floor was a tweed, cardigan-style jacket, gilt-buttoned, braided and priced at £65. This cut-price variation on such a successful theme is clearly set to also be a winner.

M&S became alert to the trend last autumn. Some eager shoppers found it worth their while to hop on a shuttle from Glasgow to London to buy a particular gilt-buttoned, blue or black bouclé tweed jacket and skirt, made by J&J Fashions for M&S. The store chain, with typical caution, had chosen to limit this new item to its Marble Arch branch. It was evident in the first days of it reaching the sales floor that M&S had a hit on its hands.

Jenifer Rosenberg, the head of J&J and one of British fashion's more powerful tycoons, understands the M&S customer better than most. She began her career pushing a post trolley and pounding a typewriter in the secretarial pool at the M&S headquarters in Baker Street, London, before working her way up through accounts and distribution into the key position of a senior fashion buyer.

In 1974, she switched roles to become a supplier, opening the first of what is now an empire of clothing factories, in the North-East. In her successful translation of high fashion into accessible clothes for the high street customer, Mrs Rosenberg, who in 1986 was the Veuve Clicquot Businesswoman of the Year, sees nothing incongruous about sitting at her desk in a Valentino suit or an Ungaro dress while she engineers the depth of a pleat in a mass-market skirt, or limits her choice of fabric to bring a jacket out at a price at which she knows it will sell.

One successful formula often gives rise to another. It was no surprise that a summer version of the gilt-buttoned suit in cream, at £65 for the jacket and £30 for the skirt, was another runaway success. M&S, emboldened by the sales figures on what it still saw as trial runs, got together again with J&J to produce another sure-fire winner for the coming season.

This month, a double-breasted jacket in hopsack tweed with generous braid trim and smart gilt buttons arrives in all the major M&S stores around the country, priced at £65. Hanging alongside, for £30, is the matching skirt in a choice of lengths, 24in or 27in. While the bouclé is a wool and acrylic mix instead of the pure wool Linton tweed of a Chanel original, and the cut is a more



Autumn hit: Marks & Spencer's simple jacket and skirt can be dressed up with pearls, chains and jewelled pins

crude, boxier approximation of the scissor-sharp Paris style, you do not need to be a fashion historian to recognise that its details are inspired by the timeless style of Coco Chanel.

M&S, quite correctly, admits only "the couture influence", and calls its new success a "French-style" bouclé suit. Number 5002, as the sales staff will soon learn to call it, is destined to reach 90 major branches of M&S, a clear recognition that a "couture-influenced French style" has mass appeal.

Carole O'Brien, the senior selector of suits at M&S, was the midwife at the birth of this season's best seller, working

with J&J on the development of the updated style. "It is a natural evolution," she says. "We liked the idea of a double-breasted jacket because of the chance to have double rows of gilt buttons, which always look smart."

"Then we wanted to make sure we found the best-quality bouclé, and picked an easy-care acrylic and wool mixture that performs well. The choice of plain black or brown, rust and black checks allows customers to mix the skirts."

Customers attuned to the chic of the look will play around with the strands of pearls and chains, chain belts and

jewelled pins that dress up this simple style (the belts, brooch and other jewellery shown here are from Butler & Wilson at 20 South Molton Street, London W1, 189 Fulham Road, SW3, and Princes Square, Glasgow).

M&S is not alone in picking up the trend. Fenwick, in London's Bond Street, has a potential best seller in its new pure wool bouclé, gilt-buttoned jacket by Charles Gray in black, brown or navy, with two flap pockets, which sells for £69. In the same idiom, but up a notch or two in quality and price (£255), is Paul Costelloe's dog-tooth check tweed jacket in pink or purple with black

When breaking in is hard to do ...

Customers have always known that longlife juice containers are hard to open. Now the industry is beginning to think they might be right after all

longlife fruit juices, which can be kept without refrigeration, have been a boon to shopkeepers and thirsty consumers this summer. In their neat rectangular packs they stack and store easily, and even when open tend to "go off" less quickly than freshly squeezed juices from the chiller cabinets, as well as being cheaper.

But try to open them. The manufacturers insist that they are as easy as pie. "Just open one of the flaps, pinch the tip and tear along the perforation," advises Bill Taylor, the information manager for Tetra Pak, the largest producer of this sort of packaging in the world, which supplies Del Monte and most of the large fruit juice companies. (More than 34 billion Tetra Briks, as they are known, were sold globally in 1988.)

Despite the assurances of a spokesman for Del Monte fruit juices that "the research we have done shows that people are generally happy with them after some initial consumer resistance", Briks remain the bane of many breakfast tables.

Perhaps some of us do squeeze them in the middle, though Mr Taylor warns against this practice, and maybe we have been guilty of opening both flaps, which apparently destroys the balance and makes the pack "unstable". But the plastic "carton pourers" (by Camie Products, £1.15 for a two-pack from Safeway and other stockists) which sub into the carton and provide an instant spout have proved relatively more manageable for many. Mr Taylor acknowledges that "a whole fringe industry has sprung up providing things like that and plastic holders that turn the cartons into a jug and spear the top as well. But we hold that the carton is perfectly adequate without such aids."

A report on packaging in this month's *Which?* magazine found longlife juice containers difficult to open, particularly for elderly people and those with stiff fingers. For two panel members the supposedly perforated cartons proved "impossible to open" without resorting to scissors.

Thornton Mustard, the director of The Marketing Clinic and an expert on drink packaging, believes that "people find them very hard to open and generally irritated. But it's easy for manufacturers to become complacent if everybody's in the same boat, using the same type of packaging, even if they're well aware of the problems."

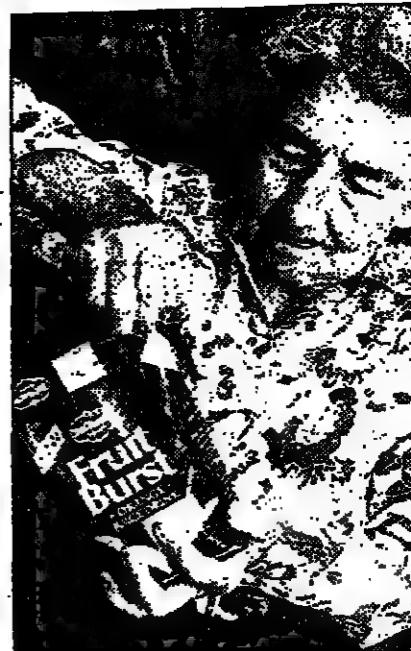
Help may soon be at hand. Tetra Pak is test-marketing, through one of its regular customers (Heads Juices of Manchester, producers of Aassis juice), a new "easy-opening Tetra Brik Aseptic" package. This incorporates a "pull-tab" opening device similar to those already used on some small juice cartons with pre-punched straw-holes. Nestle's Frappé is one product which has been using it successfully in 250ml cartons, Mr Taylor says.

So why has it taken so long to consider introducing the device on the larger cartons?

"It is a very different matter to produce a pull-tab for a small container than for a large one," Mr Taylor suspects that "once someone starts using a new and more efficient type of packaging everyone else will rush to do so too — as we have seen with canned drinks. And when you're marketing a generic product like pure fruit juice, one of the few ways to distinguish your product by the packaging. If there are two cartons of similar juice at similar prices, you'll reach for the one that is more convenient to use."

I'll drink to that.

VICTORIA MCKEE



A better way? The traditional wrestle (top) may give way to the new pull-tab

In addition to the paper, which comes from Sweden, Mr Taylor says, "and therefore is probably not chlorine-bleached, because they are very environmentally-conscious there", the Tetra Pak Aseptic packs contain several layers of plastic and aluminium foil. "To ensure the 'integrity' of the aseptic seal, the pull-tab is in the form of a plastic and aluminium tear-strip," he says. Two holes are pre-punched so that the juice will pour smoothly, and the tab is then added before the cartons are filled with juice.

"We lease the machinery to our customers, and provide the carton materials," Mr Taylor says. "Whether all-new machinery will be needed for the new packs, or whether existing machinery can be somehow adapted we do not yet know. This is one of the things we are looking at." He could not say whether the use of new technology would be reflected in the price.

Summer will be over by the time the test is completed. But Mr Mustard suspects that "once someone starts using a new and more efficient type of packaging everyone else will rush to do so too — as we have seen with canned drinks. And when you're marketing a generic product like pure fruit juice, one of the few ways to distinguish your product by the packaging. If there are two cartons of similar juice at similar prices, you'll reach for the one that is more convenient to use."

Changes in Docklands have forced an overhaul of the London Underground map — but it remains faithful to the famous original, Geraldine Bedell reports

New Tube map runs on strictly classic lines

THE London Underground map is beautiful, and is almost impossible to improve, according to Gert Dunbar, a former professor of graphic design at the Royal College of Art. But even if not capable of improvement, the map must from time to time be adapted to accommodate new lines; and London Underground has just launched one of the most radical redesigns ever.

The new version, now going up in Tube stations across the capital, wrenches the whole system to the west to make room for additional services in the east. "New lines currently being built or discussed would have created considerable confusion on the existing map; the extension of the Jubilee Line into Docklands would have been possible on the old map only with a wiggly line," says David Hughes, London Transport's publicity services manager.

And that would have been unthinkable: a cardinal principle of the map since 1931 has been that Tube lines should be shown only vertically, horizontally, or as 45 degree diagonals. Combined with a decision to ditch scale and geography in favour of clarity, this has earned the map a reputation as one of the great design successes of the 20th century — clear and commonsense, functional and pleasing. The original sketch is kept at the Victoria & Albert

The extension of the Jubilee Line into Docklands would have been possible on the old map only with a wiggly line

Museum; there is a copy in New York's Museum of Modern Art; and its guiding principle has been used for nearly all of the world's 80 other underground systems.

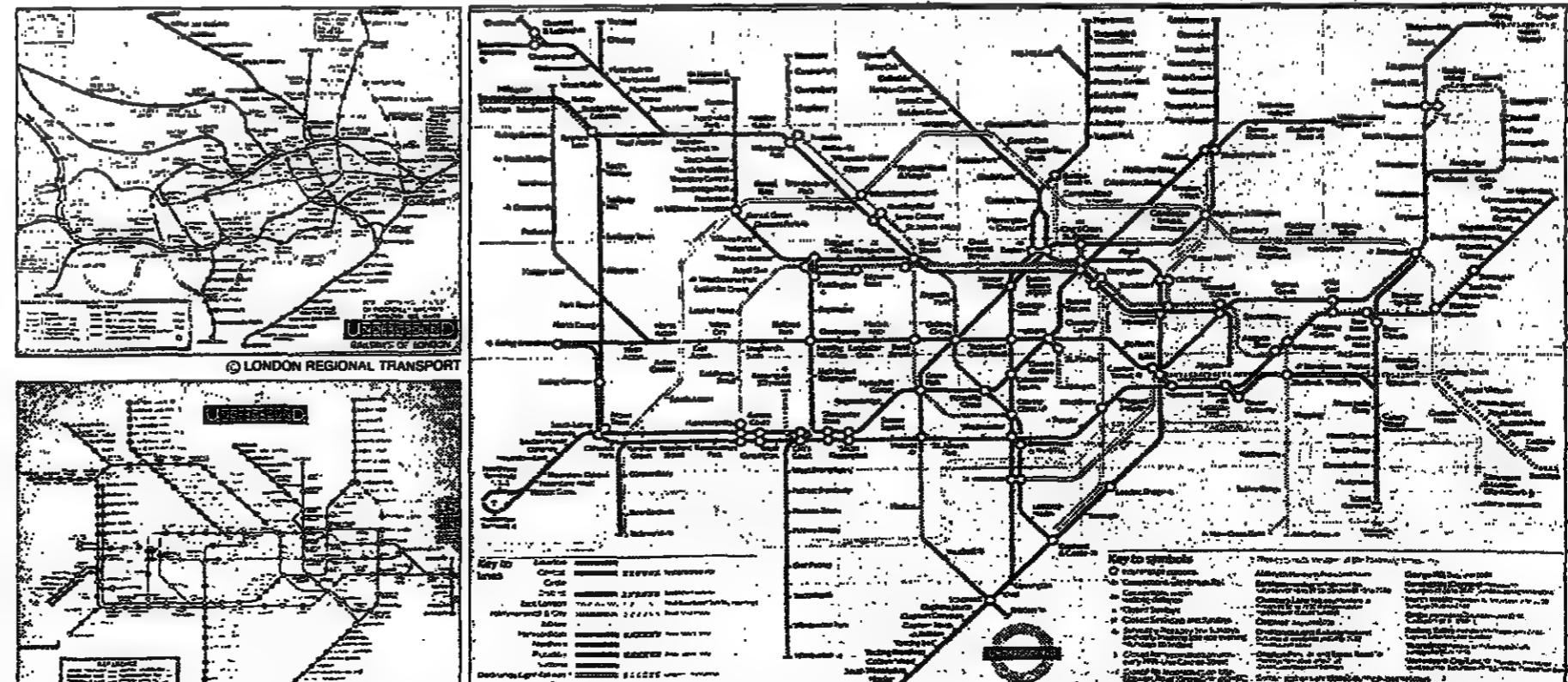
The latest version of the Journey Planner, as it is officially known, was designed at London Transport by Tim Denith, with advice from the graphic consultants Heron, Lindlow and Schmitt, thus maintaining a long tradition; none of the map authors

has been a formally qualified graphic designer or cartographer.

Harry Beck, who submitted the first unsolicited design in 1931 (the previous design of 1919 showed the system as a string of wiggly, geographically accurate lines), was a 29-year-old engineering draughtsman who had drawn the map while laid off during the First World War.

Design historians have discerned the influence of Mondrian in Mr Beck's design, which was published in 1933, but it is much more likely that inspiration came from electrical circuits (Mr Beck subsequently drew a cartoon of the map as a circuit, with electrical loops). All the same, his design was very much in keeping with the philosophy of rational, modern design then being promoted at the London Transport Passenger Board by Frank Pick, its first chief executive.

Mr Pick — often unfairly credited with turning the previous,



messy map into the clever and elegant diagram it is today — had a passion for logical and efficient design, which had already manifested itself in the commissioning of a new London Transport logo. He had also commissioned, from Edward Johnston, a typeface designer, a distinctive new sans-serif typeface, and chosen the architect Charles Holden to design the extension stations to the Central and Piccadilly lines. With posters in cubist and vorticist styles, he gave many passengers their first exposure to modern painting techniques.

When Mr Beck presented his diagrammatic map, however, the London Transport Board rejected it as too radical. He tried again; a trial edition of 500 folders was

produced, to an immediate enthusiastic response from the public. The map was reprinted, then adapted for posters, diaries, reference books, guides and postcards. Mr Beck was paid just five guineas for his idea and artwork — and which every character of every word was hand-lettered.

Mr Beck retained the existing colour-coding for different lines, and used the Johnston typeface, but revised his first sketch to jettison the blobs that denoted stations. Instead he eventually used a short line, which had a dramatic impact on the appearance of the diagram; more prominence was given to the names of the stations, and the route line looked less messy.

Although the London Under-

ground map takes great liberties with geography — Mr Beck began from the premise that the central area, inside the Circle Line, would have to be greatly enlarged, and the suburbs correspondingly compressed — it is for many the clearest image available of the capital's geography. At the time, London Transport believed that the increase in travel to the end of the line that they were trying to foster was considerably helped by the map, which made outlying stations seem much closer to the centre.

The latest adaptation makes room for extensions of the Jubilee Line through London Bridge and Canary Wharf to Stratford. It allows for the Docklands Light Railway extension to Beckton in

the east and into Bank. There is space for the proposed Chelsea-Hackney route (which will, in practice, serve Wimbledon and Hainault), and the East-West Crossrail (British Rail-size trains which will carry passengers from Essex via Liverpool Street and Paddington, and out to Amsterdam and Aylesbury).

New stations and interchanges in the east have involved changing the shape of the river, to be more geographically accurate and show the Isle of Dogs. Other changes involve reinstating the North London line (since it connects into the tube system in several places); and changing the colours of the East London (now orange) and Hamersmith and City (now salmon pink) lines, both pre-

viously magenta, to indicate that they are managed separately from the Metropolitan line. There is still some doubt about how they will show the Chelsea-Hackney route. Lime green was thought too confusing; pale green is a possibility, as is broken line.

The Underground system is highly complex — 250 miles of track, 273 stations, 2.8 million passengers a day — and the new map is more expensive than ever. But London Transport hopes that it retains the commonsense approach which informed Mr Beck's original design, and which is lucid. "All the latest changes are practical," says Mr Hughes, "we have done nothing to interfere with the justly-famous basic design."

CLASSICAL MUSIC

ARTS

Don't go down the pit, papa

Although opera is drawing ever larger audiences, musicians say they are missing out on the rewards. Richard Morrison looks at a new and provocative report

In Britain, opera has never been an uncontroversial recreation. From Dr Johnson to Terry Dick, MP, there have always been vocal supporters for any campaign to banish it permanently to addresses well south of the Alps. But the present operatic scene is particularly riddled with contradictions, and therefore capable of supporting almost any argument, pro or con.

Yes, these are "boom" years. A televised Mozart opera draws nearly a million viewers. Companies have raised ticket prices and still pull in average houses of 85 per cent or more. Pavarotti and company have turned death scenes and love duets alike into mass entertainment. Provocative, operatic updatings make front-page, as well as arts-page, headlines – especially when accompanied by a grand theatrical fiasco-out. Crowds flock to massive productions in unconventional locations: *Carmen* at Earls Court, the Bolshoi currently at the Scottish Exhibition Centre. In short, the British public has never been more opera-conscious.

Yet this is a strange sort of boom. The country's two operatic Goliaths – the Royal Opera and English National Opera – have deficits in the millions. Compared with the rake's progress being enacted at the Bastille in Paris, these may seem minor prodigies. But ENO and Covent Garden take the lion's share of operatic subsidy in Britain. They are also ideally placed to attract business sponsorship, and their ticket prices are probably as high as they can go. They still cannot pay their way.

Last December, the Arts Council decided not to continue subsidising Kent Opera. The company immediately went into liquidation. The fact is that, as presently constituted, the British operatic system cannot support itself without large amounts of public aid. And by far the biggest gird in that creating consternation is the mesh of rigid, all-pervasive house-agreements between theatre managements and entertainment unions.



Taking the heat, out of sight of the public: David McLaren (left) and other members of the LPO in the Glyndebourne Festival Opera pit

That makes the latest complication seem highly ironic. This week will see the publication of a highly detailed survey into orchestral salaries, jointly commissioned by a management (Welsh National Opera's) and the Musicians' Union's.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, the survey's conclusions support the view of the WNO's managing director, Brian McMaster, that "a lively and innovative scene in opera is being maintained at the expense of the artists who create what is seen on stage."

McMaster maintains that the survey (by the former Treasury economist, David Allen) shows that his company achieved a dramatic growth in box-office, sponsorship, and other earned income during the 1980s. But because this was largely taken up in plugging the gap left by decreasing public subsidy, the musicians – who had "increased productivity" to help maximise the company's income – have dropped right down the pay league during the same period.

There is, of course, the unavoidable sound of grinding axes lurking in this scene. Just two years ago, McMaster and his WNO management fought the MU in a long and unpleasant strike. Now they are presenting a joint survey that is convenient to both their interests. The union will use the survey's findings on comparative pay (for instance, that WNO musicians earned nine per cent more than the average white-collar male in 1976, but 16 per cent less in 1989) to pressurise the management up and down the country. And theatre managements will have to acquiesce, because there is no alternative to employing MU musicians.

Equally, WNO can use the survey to pressurise the Government on two fronts: first, to obtain more subsidy for opera generally; second, and more interesting, to argue that less of the "cake" should go to the London companies and favoured symphony orchestras, and more to the regional opera houses.

The public's belief that opera singers are paid small fortunes every time they open their mouths is, according to McMaster, often fallacy when applied to companies outside London. He is, he says, paying some singers as little as £250 per performance for taking a major role such as the Countess in *Figaro*. For comparison, a regional house in Germany would pay a similar principal four or five times that.

Similarly, when recruiting an orchestra he must compete not just with the big-earning symphony orchestras in London, but with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, which have both succeeded in obtaining larger public subsidies, and are therefore able to pay higher rates for the same orchestral jobs.

There can be no doubt that the survey accurately uncovers many grisly facts about conditions in the orchestral pit. The average basic pay (at the end of last season) was below £11,000, bumped up by recordings and broadcasts to

£12,800. Even a position of great responsibility requiring years of experience, such as principal cello, commanded a basic salary of only £13,000. Many string players are paying back large loans needed to buy decent instruments (perhaps £12,000 for a cello).

Subsistence allowances for touring orchestras increased by 73 per cent in the 1980s; unfortunately, hotel prices increased by 176 per cent. Consequently, players are driving long distances through the night to return home. Repetitive strain injury in string players, or lip fatigue in wind players, can suddenly cut a player's career short, and job security in such circumstances is not worth the paper it isn't written on. To that can be added the pressure created by the high expectations of audiences, critics, conductors and singers. This is not a profession in which slack concentration and technical failings can be tolerated: the repertoire created by Wagner, Strauss and the rest is too demanding, and must sound good night after night.

There can be little wonder that,

in such circumstances, players develop a militant union mentality. Indeed, their very position in the theatre may be a psychological factor in that: caught between solo singers earning much more than they do (even in Cardiff), and audiences affluent enough to pay for tickets which would be beyond the pockets of the musicians themselves.

Yet, tucked away on page 59 of the WNO/MU survey is a paragraph which seems to hold the key to the whole issue. Reflecting on the need for opera companies to break into more television and video work if they are to survive, the survey warns that "in the changed public subsidy environment" the present house agreements "might hinder the growth of remuneration and the protection of jobs". Further penetration of new markets, says the survey, "would require a change in culture for management, unions and staff". That painful mental readjustment is probably the first step towards converting opera's aristic boom into financial self-sufficiency.

Steamy scenes

THEATRE pits were like furnaces last week. They are arid places even in mid-winter. So what happens to musicians, and their instruments, during the Big Heat?

Players from the London Philharmonic, currently sizzling at Glyndebourne, reveal their private tussles with Nature. "Excessive perspiration on the face and lips," says the third horn, Frank Rycroft, "means that saltiness and moisture affect the embouchure." This is the vital contact between lips and mouthpiece, which needs to be millimetre-exact if the horn is not to turn nasty on its owner. "Heat also makes the mouth muscles flabbier," adds Rycroft, "and there is a feeling that the air in the pit has less oxygen. Long phrasing becomes a struggle."

Atmospheric change causes trouble for all the brass players, who gulp air like jet aircraft. "The tuba player is particularly unfortunate," says the LPO's violin-playing chairman, David Marcus. "He sits right under the canopy, with the roof just a few inches above the bell of his tuba. The vibration and stale air comes straight back at him, especially in close conditions."

Marcus gives an insight into string players' hot-weather difficulties. "Many stringed instruments swell in extreme heat. There is a feeling of tightness, unresponsiveness, in the instrument. That also affects the tension. And excessive hand perspiration makes string players feel insecure, so they grip more. That means they have much less mobility."

Slithering fingers can handicap wind players and pianists too, of course. However, Joan Graham, the LPO's cor anglais player, identified a much more worrying phenomenon. "A woodwind reed is a natural fibre, and in very hot weather the grain in the wood rises up. The reed loses its smoothness and suppleness. It feels as if you have a plank of wood in your mouth." Players compensate by shaving the reed, but there is little time for adjustment in performance. Staying in tune becomes a battle that must be fought, phrase by phrase, for three hours.

"Atmospheric change also affects the way that sound is perceived," says Marcus. "If a player starts to lose confidence in his sound, he can be inhibited. Finally, there is the simple fatigue problem. Playing a Richard Strauss opera is draining enough in temperate weather. In 90 degrees, it can maim."

RICHARD MORRISON

CRITICS' CHOICE: CONCERTS AND RECITALS

CONCERTS

CAVE CANEM: The subtitle to Jen Smedsrøm's *Indr* ("Beware of the Dog" in Latin) he says means you listen at your own risk. It features in the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra's Prom under the Finnish conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen. The gifted Heinrich Schiff is soloist in Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No 1, and Pie-Marie Nielsen and Ole Porsen add their wondrous soprano and baritone to Nielsen's *Sinfonia espansiva*. Albert Hall (as above), tonight, 7.30pm, £3.50-£12.

LIGHT AND SHADE: Colin Matthews (giving a pre-concert talk at 6.15pm) sought for his Prom commission something "Kaleidoscopic, with slowly shifting shades of colour", executed in meticulous detail and given the title *Chiaroscuro*. Richard Hickox conducts the première by the City of London Sinfonia. Delta Jones sings a lovely solo written for Kathleen Ferrier in *The Enchanted* (Arthur Bliss) and the songs in Falla's *El amor brujo*; Nicholas Daniel is also soloist in the Vaughan Williams Concerto. Albert Hall (as above), tomorrow, 7.30pm, £3.50-£12.

SIMPSON AND ELISAF: Robert Simpson, now aged 69, dates his Fifth Symphony to 1972. Though it does not sound like Beethoven, it shares a similarity of musical thought-processes, as Andrew Davis will unfold in his Prom performance with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. You Baskerville, Soviet viola virtuoso, has taken a great shine to Elgar's Cello Concerto in the Lionel Tertis viola version; Mozart's Symphony No 38, the "Linz", begins the concert. Albert Hall (as above), Thurs, 7.30pm, £3.50-£12.

ORIENT ORCHESTRA: Japan's Saito Kinen Orchestra, formed in 1984 by former pupils of Heiko Saito, come together only for occasional concerts and tours, this year based in Vienna and visiting the Proms under Seiji Ozawa (see photo, above). He conducts Mozart (Divertimento in D, K 136) and Brahms (Symphony No 1); Mstislav Rostropovich joins them for Haydn's C major Cello Concerto. Albert Hall (as above), Fri, 8pm, £3.50-£12.

HORNE PLAYS PROKOFIEV: One of the youngest Prom soloists this season is 19-year-old multiple-prizewinning pianist David Horne, who plays Prokofiev's C major Concerto (No 3) with the BBC Scottish Symphony on a London visit. The orchestra swell the percussion section with a typewriter and a siren needed in Parade; Saito's music for a 1917 ballet-fantasy, Suites by Khachaturian and Stravinsky begin and end the programme. Albert Hall (as above), Sat, 7.30pm, £3.50-£12.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: Three weeks of music to suit most tastes are sounded off by the Japanese Saito Kinen Orchestra moving on from the London Proms to give the festival's opening concert. Mstislav Rostropovich is again the guest, this time for Dvorak's Cello Concerto, which shares a somewhat sparser-sounding programme with Brahms's Symphony No 1. Seiji Ozawa conducts. Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh (031-225 5756), Sun, 8pm, £3-£22.

CHORAL PROM: Before Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, the BBC Singers conducted by Simon Joy have the unaccompanied choir works by Brahms (Festival Sentences); Richard Strauss (Evening) and Schubert (Peacock on Earth). Great Hall (as above), Thurs, 8.15pm, £4.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE

LAST 4 WEEKS

MARTI WEBB WAYNE SLEEP DAZZLING

BOX OFFICE 071-379 4444 (0856 164 07-19, 9977 08-74 9999 07-20 0777 07-63 9041 0856 08-20 0856 08-21 0856 08-22 0856 08-23 0856 08-24 0856 08-25 0856 08-26 0856 08-27 0856 08-28 0856 08-29 0856 08-30 0856 08-31 0856 08-32 0856 08-33 0856 08-34 0856 08-35 0856 08-36 0856 08-37 0856 08-38 0856 08-39 0856 08-40 0856 08-41 0856 08-42 0856 08-43 0856 08-44 0856 08-45 0856 08-46 0856 08-47 0856 08-48 0856 08-49 0856 08-50 0856 08-51 0856 08-52 0856 08-53 0856 08-54 0856 08-55 0856 08-56 0856 08-57 0856 08-58 0856 08-59 0856 08-60 0856 08-61 0856 08-62 0856 08-63 0856 08-64 0856 08-65 0856 08-66 0856 08-67 0856 08-68 0856 08-69 0856 08-70 0856 08-71 0856 08-72 0856 08-73 0856 08-74 0856 08-75 0856 08-76 0856 08-77 0856 08-78 0856 08-79 0856 08-80 0856 08-81 0856 08-82 0856 08-83 0856 08-84 0856 08-85 0856 08-86 0856 08-87 0856 08-88 0856 08-89 0856 08-90 0856 08-91 0856 08-92 0856 08-93 0856 08-94 0856 08-95 0856 08-96 0856 08-97 0856 08-98 0856 08-99 0856 08-100 0856 08-101 0856 08-102 0856 08-103 0856 08-104 0856 08-105 0856 08-106 0856 08-107 0856 08-108 0856 08-109 0856 08-110 0856 08-111 0856 08-112 0856 08-113 0856 08-114 0856 08-115 0856 08-116 0856 08-117 0856 08-118 0856 08-119 0856 08-120 0856 08-121 0856 08-122 0856 08-123 0856 08-124 0856 08-125 0856 08-126 0856 08-127 0856 08-128 0856 08-129 0856 08-130 0856 08-131 0856 08-132 0856 08-133 0856 08-134 0856 08-135 0856 08-136 0856 08-137 0856 08-138 0856 08-139 0856 08-140 0856 08-141 0856 08-142 0856 08-143 0856 08-144 0856 08-145 0856 08-146 0856 08-147 0856 08-148 0856 08-149 0856 08-150 0856 08-151 0856 08-152 0856 08-153 0856 08-154 0856 08-155 0856 08-156 0856 08-157 0856 08-158 0856 08-159 0856 08-160 0856 08-161 0856 08-162 0856 08-163 0856 08-164 0856 08-165 0856 08-166 0856 08-167 0856 08-168 0856 08-169 0856 08-170 0856 08-171 0856 08-172 0856 08-173 0856 08-174 0856 08-175 0856 08-176 0856 08-177 0856 08-178 0856 08-179 0856 08-180 0856 08-181 0856 08-182 0856 08-183 0856 08-184 0856 08-185 0856 08-186 0856 08-187 0856 08-188 0856 08-189 0856 08-190 0856 08-191 0856 08-192 0856 08-193 0856 08-194 0856 08-195 0856 08-196 0856 08-197 0856 08-198 0856 08-199 0856 08-200 0856 08-201 0856 08-202 0856 08-203 0856 08-204 0856 08-205 0856 08-206 0856 08-207 0856 08-208 0856 08-209 0856 08-210 0856 08-211 0856 08-212 0856 08-213 0856 08-214 0856 08-215 0856 08-216 0856 08-217 0856 08-218 0856 08-219 0856 08-220 0856 08-221 0856 08-222 0856 08-223 0856 08-224 0856 08-225 0856 08-226 0856 08-227 0856 08-228 0856 08-229 0856 08-230 0856 08-231 0856 08-232 0856 08-233 0856 08-234 0856 08-235 0856 08-236 0856 08-237 0856 08-238 0856 08-239 0856 08-240 0856 08-241 0856 08-242 0856 08-243 0856 08-244 0856 08-245 0856 08-246 0856 08-247 0856 08-248 0856 08-249 0856 08-250 0856 08-251 0856 08-252 0856 08-253 0856 08-254 0856 08-255 0856 08-256 0856 08-257 0856 08-258 0856 08-259 0856 08-260 0856 08-261 0856 08-262 0856 08-263 0856 08-264 0856 08-265 0856 08-266 0856 08-267 0856 08-268 0856 08-269 0856 08-270 0856 08-271 0856 08-272 0856 08-273 0856 08-274 0856 08-275 0856 08-276 0856 08-277 0856 08-278 0856 08-279 0856 08-280 0856 08-281 0856 08-282 0856 08-283 0856 08-284 0856 08-285 0856 08-286 0856 08-287 0856 08-288 0856 08-289 0856 08-290 0856 08-291 0856 08-292 0856 08-293 0856 08

Glitz women, wine and song

OPERA

Die Csárdásfürstin
Morbisch, Austria

FOR most of the year Morbisch is simply a tiny village on the Austrian/Hungarian frontier. Most of its income is derived from grapes much of Austria's best red wine comes from around here.

But in July and August the village is transformed. Morbisch has its annual festival. An opera is performed on the floating stage of the lake, and many of the 3,000-strong audience come in coach from Vienna. Much wine is imbibed; the atmosphere is convivial like a day out in Bognor, except that the music is better.

Morbisch generally looks for the sort of operetta which makes visitors unsure whether they are in eastern Austria or western Hungary. No work could fill that demand better than *Die Csárdásfürstin* (*The Csárdás Princess*), the best work of Emmerich Kálmán. He was born in Hungary, but the Princess had its first performance in Vienna. Austrian-Hungarian unity was further secured by setting the first act in Budapest and the second in the Austrian capital. On one side of Morbisch's floating stage there is the illuminated skeleton of Budapest's Orpheum Theatre, with a flight of steps that light up, one by one; on the other are the outlines of St Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna and the Big Wheel in the Prater.

THEATRE

The Hour of the Lynx
Traverse, Edinburgh

IN A commendable return to the roots of the theatre, the Traverse has included in its new season two plays by foreign dramatists: Raymond Cousteau and Per Olov Enquist, whose play, *The Hour of the Lynx*, is receiving its British première, is apparently seen in Scandinavia as the inheritor of Strindberg's mantle. Unfortunately, in spite of a stylish production by director Kim Dambæk, it is difficult to see how such a claim can be justified.

The Hour of the Lynx is, however, a fascinating exploration of the mind of a boy who is a psychopathic killer and arsonist. His history is unravelled as a flashback by a Lutheran pastor called in by a behavioural scientist who despairs when the boy kills the cat he was given as part of an experiment to control him. The play is heavily laden with biblical symbolism and also carries a covert plea for a place for the individual in a scientifically controlled society.

By using an initially unattract-



Michael Roider (left), Sona Ghazarian and Sandor Nemeth in Kálmán's *Die Csárdásfürstin*

The cast, too, is strictly Austro-Hungarian. Sona Ghazarian, who plays the cabaret star, Sylva Varescu, has spent much of her career at the Vienna State Opera. She lacks a bit of the flamboyance the part needs, but the voice is large and true. Michael Roider, based in Graz, shows a most polished tenor as Edwin.

Sandor Nemeth, director of the Budapest Operaetta Theatre, plays Count Boni as a larky stage-door

Johnny; his dancing is top class, his singing more than adequate. Since he also stages the show, his Morbisch début, he gets a fair slice of the action.

Morbisch could improve its orchestra and its amplification, but it is mighty strong on glitz. Vintage cars whizz around on the lake to mark the date of composition, 1915, and fireworks go off to suggest that there might be hostilities going on somewhere.

But the plot scarcely matters and Nemeth has taken liberties with it here and added in a number or two. And there are powerful precedents: when Guy Bolton and P.G. Wodehouse reworked *Csárdásfürstin* for Broadway it became *The Riviera Girl*.

• Performances continue on Saturdays and Sundays until August 26.

JOHN HIGGINS

PROMS

NYOGB/Bamert
Albert Hall

THE National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain has a reputation both for impeccable musicianship and for the ambitious nature of its programmes. In its Prom on Sunday night, the players showed no sign of slackening on either front, giving a concert that contained not only Strauss's barn-storming *Also Sprach Zarathustra* and Ravel's fierce little Concerto for the Left Hand, but also the first London performance of a testing 40-minute score by Giles Swayne called *Pentecost Music*.

Swayne's work dates from the late 1970s, and although the composer intended it as a conscious exercise in simplification, it is anything but a quiet meditation. The Pentecost theme gives rise to writing of direct and "charismatic" force, using that word in the strict spiritualistic sense.

Sometimes the music moves in soaring ecstatic phrases, sometimes in agitated, angular leaps. But always it is highly colourful and at its peaks of expression the listener is, in true pen-

tal fashion, caught up in the frenzy.

Obliged on medical grounds to listen to the work on the radio, I was able at a second hearing to appreciate just how well Matthias Bamert shaped the series of eruptions into the single arc of a spiritual discovery. In the Strauss he had a similar task. The boundless energy and commitment of the NYO players produced a fresh, opulent sound, bursting with urgency. What the conductor has to do is to channel that vibrancy of spirit into coherent structures. It was a tribute to his guiding hand that, at the end of *Zarathustra*, the listener did not dwell on the small clutch of prominently muffed notes but treasured the perfect encapsulation of the Nietzschean vision of the younger Strauss.

In the Ravel Concerto, Bamert encouraged his players to give their phrases spiky rhythms and cutting edges that accentuated the sharp colours of the score. Having swept through her opening cadenza with aplomb, Joanna MacGregor added her decisive rhythms and brilliantly articulated decorations to a performance that caught the spirit of Ravel in his brittle, outdoor mood.

BARRY MILLINGTON

ALASDAIR CAMERON

schedules. *Hoax* (Radio 4, Saturday) hinges entirely on three "true" stories from the lives of celebrities, with the difference that the audience votes on their veracity: one of the three, like a classic paradox in formal logic, is untrue — and we are led to believe that only the mendacious participant is privy to the secret.

The singer Ian Wallace led with a jape about a burglar alarm in a Glasgow (even he says "Glasgow") hotel, and the ensuing reactions of a musically inclined night porter. Malt whisky bulked large in this tale, which one would have to be drunk to find funny. The well-known telephone user, Maureen Lipman, then weighed in with a reminiscence about a chance encounter in a genteel Manchester cafe with a taciturn man whose idea of relaxation was to spend his holidays touring northern towns in the firm's van, bellowing through a megaphone that the local water supply was about to be cut off. Very Mancunian, very Anthony Burgess — also, one eventually learned, a total fabrication. John Wells gallantly drew the flask by making his account of National Service in Korea — a drunken private with a silly surname, a drawn sword, artificial-sounding snow — as implausible as possible, and the audience dutifully voted against him.

But if you believe the Wells anecdote, you presumably have to believe all manner of other unlikely tales — for example, that the boxer and ska singer, Prince Buster, once dressed up in his mother's clothes in order to lie in wait for a thug who had assaulted him and whom he subsequently repaid in kind.

The various dubs and drabs rehearsed in *Don't Watch That!* (Radio 1, Saturday) gave context to some of the most vital music of the 1960s, which in those days still had a sense of humour. It certainly needed to. The Jimmy Cliff film, *The Harder They Come*, seems rather to pussyfoot in contrast

with the actualities of everyday life in Kingston, where the music business was run by a gun-toting ex-policeman. Prince Buster noted that his celebrated "Madness" was recorded after he discharged himself from hospital, where he had been treated for a close encounter with a paving stone.

Some further gems of (apparently indisputable) fact: The pop critic, Dave Hill, claimed that the Police's drummer once termed the on-beat of reggae "a paradigm for an alternative universe" ("I don't think I've ever heard anything better than that," gushed Dave); and Desmond Dekker went on record about the troublesome lyrics of "Israelites", whose first line reads: "Get up in the morning, slaving for bread. Sir," with not a mention of baked beans for breakfast. I wonder if he knows that his title was recently traduced in a television commercial as "Me Ears Are Alight!"

MARTIN CROPPER

WORD-WATCHING
Answers from page 20

CORVINUS
(b) Matthias I, King of Hungary, (1458-90), younger son of Janos Hunyadi, was so called from the raven on his shield. He was one of the greatest of all book-collectors, and some of the earliest European gilt-tooled bindings were executed for his library. Recognise these from his raven stamped in the centre of their covers.

DUKE OF HUMPHREY
(a) Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester (1391-1447), known as God for donations to the Church. The tomb of St John Beaufort, in old St Paul's, was supposed to be his. Those with no dimes to go to, and frightened of being arrested for debt if they left the precincts, said they were going to dine with Duke Humphrey.

GABELLE
(b) The French tax on salt, first levied in 1286 and abolished at the Revolution. Everyone above the age of eight had to buy a minimum.

MOUSE TOWER
(b) A medieval watch-tower on the Rhine near Bingen, so called from the tradition that Archduke Hatto was eaten by mice there. In fact the name comes from German *Mäuse* foil.

WINNING MOVE
By Raymond Keene,
Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Gavert (White), West (Black), Sydney 1989. The Black king is very constricted. Can you see how White exploited this?

Solotov in tomorrow's position: 1 Cxh7+ Kxh7 2 Ng5 (2 Nf5+ Kf7 3 Nf7+ Kf6 4 Nf6+ Kf5 5 Nf5+ Kf4 6 Nf4+ Kf3 7 Nf3+ Kf2 8 Nf2+ Kf1 9 Nf1+ Kf0 10 Nf0+ Kf1 11 Nf1+ Kf0 12 Nf0+ Kf1 13 Nf1+ Kf0 14 Nf0+ Kf1 15 Nf1+ Kf0 16 Nf0+ Kf1 17 Nf1+ Kf0 18 Nf0+ Kf1 19 Nf1+ Kf0 20 Nf0+ Kf1 21 Nf1+ Kf0 22 Nf0+ Kf1 23 Nf1+ Kf0 24 Nf0+ Kf1 25 Nf1+ Kf0 26 Nf0+ Kf1 27 Nf1+ Kf0 28 Nf0+ Kf1 29 Nf1+ Kf0 30 Nf0+ Kf1 31 Nf1+ Kf0 32 Nf0+ Kf1 33 Nf1+ Kf0 34 Nf0+ Kf1 35 Nf1+ Kf0 36 Nf0+ Kf1 37 Nf1+ Kf0 38 Nf0+ Kf1 39 Nf1+ Kf0 40 Nf0+ Kf1 41 Nf1+ Kf0 42 Nf0+ Kf1 43 Nf1+ Kf0 44 Nf0+ Kf1 45 Nf1+ Kf0 46 Nf0+ Kf1 47 Nf1+ Kf0 48 Nf0+ Kf1 49 Nf1+ Kf0 50 Nf0+ Kf1 51 Nf1+ Kf0 52 Nf0+ Kf1 53 Nf1+ Kf0 54 Nf0+ Kf1 55 Nf1+ Kf0 56 Nf0+ Kf1 57 Nf1+ Kf0 58 Nf0+ Kf1 59 Nf1+ Kf0 60 Nf0+ Kf1 61 Nf1+ Kf0 62 Nf0+ Kf1 63 Nf1+ Kf0 64 Nf0+ Kf1 65 Nf1+ Kf0 66 Nf0+ Kf1 67 Nf1+ Kf0 68 Nf0+ Kf1 69 Nf1+ Kf0 70 Nf0+ Kf1 71 Nf1+ Kf0 72 Nf0+ Kf1 73 Nf1+ Kf0 74 Nf0+ Kf1 75 Nf1+ Kf0 76 Nf0+ Kf1 77 Nf1+ Kf0 78 Nf0+ Kf1 79 Nf1+ Kf0 80 Nf0+ Kf1 81 Nf1+ Kf0 82 Nf0+ Kf1 83 Nf1+ Kf0 84 Nf0+ Kf1 85 Nf1+ Kf0 86 Nf0+ Kf1 87 Nf1+ Kf0 88 Nf0+ Kf1 89 Nf1+ Kf0 90 Nf0+ Kf1 91 Nf1+ Kf0 92 Nf0+ Kf1 93 Nf1+ Kf0 94 Nf0+ Kf1 95 Nf1+ Kf0 96 Nf0+ Kf1 97 Nf1+ Kf0 98 Nf0+ Kf1 99 Nf1+ Kf0 100 Nf0+ Kf1 101 Nf1+ Kf0 102 Nf0+ Kf1 103 Nf1+ Kf0 104 Nf0+ Kf1 105 Nf1+ Kf0 106 Nf0+ Kf1 107 Nf1+ Kf0 108 Nf0+ Kf1 109 Nf1+ Kf0 110 Nf0+ Kf1 111 Nf1+ Kf0 112 Nf0+ Kf1 113 Nf1+ Kf0 114 Nf0+ Kf1 115 Nf1+ Kf0 116 Nf0+ Kf1 117 Nf1+ Kf0 118 Nf0+ Kf1 119 Nf1+ Kf0 120 Nf0+ Kf1 121 Nf1+ Kf0 122 Nf0+ Kf1 123 Nf1+ Kf0 124 Nf0+ Kf1 125 Nf1+ Kf0 126 Nf0+ Kf1 127 Nf1+ Kf0 128 Nf0+ Kf1 129 Nf1+ Kf0 130 Nf0+ Kf1 131 Nf1+ Kf0 132 Nf0+ Kf1 133 Nf1+ Kf0 134 Nf0+ Kf1 135 Nf1+ Kf0 136 Nf0+ Kf1 137 Nf1+ Kf0 138 Nf0+ Kf1 139 Nf1+ Kf0 140 Nf0+ Kf1 141 Nf1+ Kf0 142 Nf0+ Kf1 143 Nf1+ Kf0 144 Nf0+ Kf1 145 Nf1+ Kf0 146 Nf0+ Kf1 147 Nf1+ Kf0 148 Nf0+ Kf1 149 Nf1+ Kf0 150 Nf0+ Kf1 151 Nf1+ Kf0 152 Nf0+ Kf1 153 Nf1+ Kf0 154 Nf0+ Kf1 155 Nf1+ Kf0 156 Nf0+ Kf1 157 Nf1+ Kf0 158 Nf0+ Kf1 159 Nf1+ Kf0 160 Nf0+ Kf1 161 Nf1+ Kf0 162 Nf0+ Kf1 163 Nf1+ Kf0 164 Nf0+ Kf1 165 Nf1+ Kf0 166 Nf0+ Kf1 167 Nf1+ Kf0 168 Nf0+ Kf1 169 Nf1+ Kf0 170 Nf0+ Kf1 171 Nf1+ Kf0 172 Nf0+ Kf1 173 Nf1+ Kf0 174 Nf0+ Kf1 175 Nf1+ Kf0 176 Nf0+ Kf1 177 Nf1+ Kf0 178 Nf0+ Kf1 179 Nf1+ Kf0 180 Nf0+ Kf1 181 Nf1+ Kf0 182 Nf0+ Kf1 183 Nf1+ Kf0 184 Nf0+ Kf1 185 Nf1+ Kf0 186 Nf0+ Kf1 187 Nf1+ Kf0 188 Nf0+ Kf1 189 Nf1+ Kf0 190 Nf0+ Kf1 191 Nf1+ Kf0 192 Nf0+ Kf1 193 Nf1+ Kf0 194 Nf0+ Kf1 195 Nf1+ Kf0 196 Nf0+ Kf1 197 Nf1+ Kf0 198 Nf0+ Kf1 199 Nf1+ Kf0 200 Nf0+ Kf1 201 Nf1+ Kf0 202 Nf0+ Kf1 203 Nf1+ Kf0 204 Nf0+ Kf1 205 Nf1+ Kf0 206 Nf0+ Kf1 207 Nf1+ Kf0 208 Nf0+ Kf1 209 Nf1+ Kf0 210 Nf0+ Kf1 211 Nf1+ Kf0 212 Nf0+ Kf1 213 Nf1+ Kf0 214 Nf0+ Kf1 215 Nf1+ Kf0 216 Nf0+ Kf1 217 Nf1+ Kf0 218 Nf0+ Kf1 219 Nf1+ Kf0 220 Nf0+ Kf1 221 Nf1+ Kf0 222 Nf0+ Kf1 223 Nf1+ Kf0 224 Nf0+ Kf1 225 Nf1+ Kf0 226 Nf0+ Kf1 227 Nf1+ Kf0 228 Nf0+ Kf1 229 Nf1+ Kf0 230 Nf0+ Kf1 231 Nf1+ Kf0 232 Nf0+ Kf1 233 Nf1+ Kf0 234 Nf0+ Kf1 235 Nf1+ Kf0 236 Nf0+ Kf1 237 Nf1+ Kf0 238 Nf0+ Kf1 239 Nf1+ Kf0 240 Nf0+ Kf1 241 Nf1+ Kf0 242 Nf0+ Kf1 243 Nf1+ Kf0 244 Nf0+ Kf1 245 Nf1+ Kf0 246 Nf0+ Kf1 247 Nf1+ Kf0 248 Nf0+ Kf1 249 Nf1+ Kf0 250 Nf0+ Kf1 251 Nf1+ Kf0 252 Nf0+ Kf1 253 Nf1+ Kf0 254 Nf0+ Kf1 255 Nf1+ Kf0 256 Nf0+ Kf1 257 Nf1+ Kf0 258 Nf0+ Kf1 259 Nf1+ Kf0 260 Nf0+ Kf1 261 Nf1+ Kf0 262 Nf0+ Kf1 263 Nf1+ Kf0 264 Nf0+ Kf1 265 Nf1+ Kf0 266 Nf0+ Kf1 267 Nf1+ Kf0 268 Nf0+ Kf1 269 Nf1+ Kf0 270 Nf0+ Kf1 271 Nf1+ Kf0 272 Nf0+ Kf1 273 Nf1+ Kf0 274 Nf0+ Kf1 275 Nf1+ Kf0 276 Nf0+ Kf1 277 Nf1+ Kf0 278 Nf0+ Kf1 279 Nf1+ Kf0 280 Nf0+ Kf1 281 Nf1+ Kf0 282 Nf0+ Kf1 283 Nf1+ Kf0 284 Nf0+ Kf1 285 Nf1+ Kf0 286 Nf0+ Kf1 287 Nf1+ Kf0 288 Nf0+ Kf1 289 Nf1+ Kf0 290 Nf0+ Kf1 291 Nf1+ Kf0 292 Nf0+ Kf1 293 Nf1+ Kf0 294 Nf0+ Kf1 295 Nf1+ Kf0 296 Nf0+ Kf1 297 Nf1+ Kf0 298 Nf0+ Kf1 299 Nf1+ Kf0 300 Nf0+ Kf1 301 Nf1+ Kf0 302 Nf0+ Kf1 303 Nf1+ Kf0 304 Nf0+ Kf1 305 Nf1+ Kf0 306 Nf0+ Kf1 307 Nf1+ Kf0 308 Nf0+ Kf1 309 Nf1+ Kf0 310 Nf0+ Kf1 311 Nf1+ Kf0 312 Nf0+ Kf1 313 Nf1+ Kf0 314 Nf0+ Kf1 315 Nf1+ Kf0 316 Nf0+ Kf1 317 Nf1+ Kf0 318 Nf0+ Kf1 319 Nf1+ Kf0 320 Nf0+ Kf1 321 Nf1+ Kf0 322 Nf0+ Kf1 323 Nf1+ Kf0 324 Nf0+ Kf1 325 Nf1+ Kf0 326 Nf0+ Kf1 327 Nf1+ Kf0 328 Nf0+ Kf1 329 Nf1+ Kf0 330 Nf0+ Kf1 331 Nf1+ Kf0 332 Nf0+ Kf1 333 Nf1+ Kf0 334 Nf0+ Kf1 335 Nf1+ Kf0 336 Nf0+ Kf1 337 Nf1+ Kf0 338 Nf0+ Kf1 339 Nf1+ Kf0 340 Nf0+ Kf1 341 Nf1+ Kf0 342 Nf0+ Kf1 343 Nf1+ Kf0 344 Nf0+ Kf1 345 Nf1+ Kf0 346 Nf0+ Kf1 347 Nf1+ Kf0 348 Nf0+ Kf1 349 Nf1+ Kf0 350 Nf0+ Kf1 351 Nf1+ Kf0 352 Nf0+ Kf1 353 Nf1+ Kf0 354 Nf0+ Kf1 355 Nf

BUSINESS

TUESDAY AUGUST 7 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Finlan to seek £8m to stay solvent

SHARES in Finlan Group, the commercial and residential property developer, dropped from 12p to 2.5p yesterday, as the company announced pre-tax losses of £8.3 million in the year to March.

The company's future now depends on the success of an open offer for new shares at 2p a share, which aims to raise £7.9 million after expenses. If the offer fails to raise a minimum of £6 million, the directors say it will cease trading.

Assuming the £6 million minimum is raised, the company would still be 230 per cent geared said a spokesman for EIW, the board's financial adviser. The directors and existing shareholders have undertaken to subscribe for shares worth about £3.6 million.

With £2.6 million of extraordinary items, total losses at Finlan were £10.8 million, £4.3 million of which came from the housebuilding division, leading to a decision to withdraw from residential development. No final dividend is being paid (2.7p last time).

Michael Rhode, who switched from executive to non-executive chairman last September, is to further reduce his role. He is to become a non-executive director.

Temps, page 23

N Sea go-ahead
A £1 billion North Sea oilfield development won approval from Mr John Wakeham, the Energy Secretary. The Amerada Hess Scott field has estimated reserves of 450 million barrels of oil, 290 billion cubic feet of gas and 40 million barrels of natural gas liquids. It will contribute almost 10 per cent of current UK continental shelf production, starting in 1993.

TDG lower

Transport Development Group's sensitivity to oil prices led to year-end profit forecasts being downgraded, and an interim pre-tax profit of £1.78 million against £19.8 million. The shares fall 12p to 192p.

Temps, page 23

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8740 (+0.0180)
W German mark
2.9603 (-0.0054)
Exchange Index
94.4 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1731.9 (-61.5)
FT-SE 100
2220.2 (-84.4)
New York Dow Jones
2725.89 (-83.66)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
2859.53 (-816.23)
Closing Prices ... Page 25

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month Interbank: 15.14%
Commercial Paper: 14%
US Prime Rate: 10%
Federal Funds: 7.5%
3-month Treasury Bills: 7.22-7.21%
30-year bonds 100%+100%

CURRENCIES

London: New York:
\$1.8726*
DM2.9503 \$ DM1.5765*
\$1.8740 \$1.8715*
\$1.8718 \$1.8715*
\$1.8770 \$1.8757*
\$1.8744 \$1.8741*
ECU 50.703555 SDR 0.7341658
ECU 1.427847 SDR 1.362288

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$380.00 pm \$382.25
closes \$382.25-\$32.75 (220.25)
22.75
New York:
Comex \$382.10-\$32.60*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Sep) ... \$26.40/bbl (\$23.80)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$ 2.45
Aust in Sch 2.65
Canada \$ 1.00
Denmark Kr 11.77
Finland Mark 10.00
Germany DM 1.00
Greece Dr 3.07
Hong Kong \$ 15.10
Iceland Kr 2.00
Japan Yen 265.50
Netherlands Gld 3.445
Norway Kr 11.55
Portugal Esc 2.25
South Africa R 1.75
Spain Pes 188.75
Sweden Kr 2.44
Switzerland Fr 1.43
Turkey Lira 5.00
USA \$ 1.95
Yugoslavia Dr 25.00
Rates for small denomination banknotes as quoted by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to foreign cheques.
Retail Price Index: 285.2 (June)

** * * *

Equities slump around the world

By OUR CITY STAFF

STOCK MARKETS around the world went into decline yesterday as dealers feared an escalation of the Middle East conflict.

Oil prices took off as soon as Western financial centres reopened after a nervous weekend, with North Sea Brent, the most widely traded crude, rising by \$3.50 a barrel, inflation fears of higher inflation. The FT-SE index of 100 leading shares went into freefall when the market opened, and closed 64.4 points down at 2,220.2, a drop of 2.8 per cent.

Investors in London were left counting their losses in the wake of the biggest one-day fall so far this year on the equity market. It wiped almost £14 billion from the value of Britain's publicly quoted companies. At one stage, the FT-SE 100 index was down 82 points.

Dealers reported double-figure losses among blue chips but by the close of business, less than 600 million shares had been traded — and this

figure had been inflated by a large share placing.

Mark Brown, equity strategist with UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, said: "If the situation stabilises with an oil price of \$25-\$26 a barrel, the market is likely to discount the economic impact. If the situation escalates, there will be further fallout".

Trevor Laing at Kleinwort Benson, the securities house, expects the market to trade within a band of 2,000 to 2,200 if the Iraqi army fails to withdraw from Kuwait.

"A negotiated settlement would be the rational solution. If that can be reached, everyone will want to buy this market. My guess is that the upside could be as much as 2,425 — where we started the year," he said.

In New York, the Dow Jones industrial average tumbled more than 100 points in the first hour of trading, but recovered some ground by midday. The dollar, normally a safe haven in times of world problems, was sold sharply, falling two pennings against

the mark to DM1.57 marks and was down slightly against the yen at just over Y149.

Bond markets were also hit, with the long bonds, the 30-year treasury notes, dropping sharply with yields at 8.7 per cent against the opening of 8.45 per cent. Oil futures were trading up sharply with West Texas intermediate up \$2.81 on the day to \$27.30 for the September futures contracts.

The oil price rise sent European shares diving as stock market indices hit their lowest levels this year in many countries. The Dax index of West Germany's 30 leading companies fell by 5.4 per cent to 1,740.93, the lowest level this year. West German bonds fell by up to 15 pennings. Yields on the 8½ per cent bond rose from 8.75 per cent to 8.89 per cent. The CAC-40 index on the Paris bourse was down by 5.12 per cent to 1,773.79, its lowest rating since last November.

MATIF, the clearing house, said that trading in CAC-40 stock index futures and options was halted for a time after prices fell by the maximum permitted amounts.

Shares in Belgium fell by 4.5 per cent as the forward market index shed 272.93 points to close at 5,735.23. In Sweden, the general index fell by 4.1 per cent to 1,224.69, and in Milan the bourse index fell by 4.83 per cent to 966.

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London gold rose by \$4.375 to \$382.50 an ounce in fairly steady trading.

Comment, page 23
Stock market, page 24

Curbs heat oil prices

Oil prices are expected to open sharply higher today after Iraq's decision to close major export pipeline through Turkey to the Mediterranean.

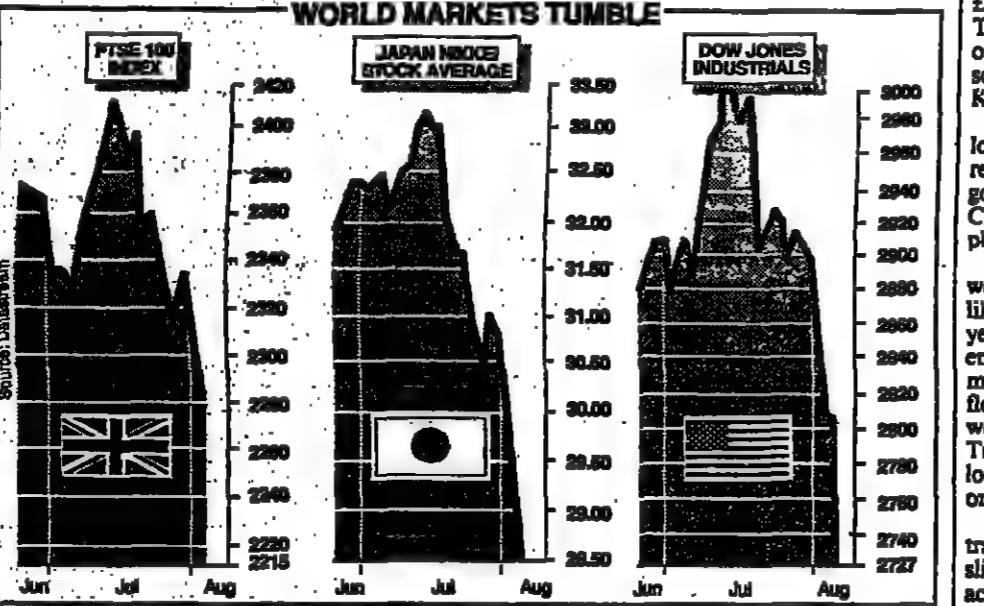
Iraq has also reduced the flow of oil through the larger IFP-2 pipeline through Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea by an estimated 56 per cent. The

twin moves cutting Iraqi oil exports threw international oil markets into further disarray yesterday.

Oil markets around the world remained volatile yesterday after opening almost \$3 a barrel higher at a four-year high of \$26.50 for September Brent.

London gold rose by \$4.375 to \$382.50 an ounce in fairly steady trading.

Comment, page 23
Stock market, page 24



Kleinwort's £138m buy falls flat

By MARTIN BARROW

BURMAH Castrol, the lubricants group, yesterday sold its 29.7 per cent shareholding in Premier Consolidated for £138 million, making a profit of £78 million over the book value of the stake.

But the disposal looked like becoming an embarrassment for Kleinwort Benson, the unconfirmed buyer of the 13.9 million shares.

The security house paid almost 99p a share for the stake then offered them in the market at 105p in early trading. But with the stock market slipping back to 95p, appearing to leave Kleinwort Benson with substantial losses.

Kleinwort Benson, which acts as stockbroker, to Premier, declined to comment.

There was speculation in the stock market that Kleinwort Benson may have lined up an existing shareholder in Premier as a stand-by buyer who wished to restrict his shareholding to less than 30 per cent and wanted to offload the shares.

However, other dealers quickly dismissed this. "We have clients who have been offered blocks of 20 million shares," one dealer said.

Kuwaiti petrol and investment assets are in the balance

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE future of the Kuwait Investment Office and the Kuwait Petroleum Company remains in the balance after Bank of England officials were last night unable to complete details of the government's order to freeze Kuwaiti assets.

The Bank hopes to publish its guidelines on the treatment of Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets today. If it holds to the letter of the government's statutory instrument to freeze Kuwaiti assets, the KIO could find it impossible to trade its investments or receive dividends from shareholdings, which include 9.7 per cent of BP and 10.6 per cent of Midland Bank.

The KPC, which runs a chain of 1,000 petrol stations in Britain under the name Q8, would not be able to use its normal banking facilities. Both companies refused to comment yesterday, although the KPC said business is continuing as usual.

Prospects are also uncertain for the repayment of Iraqi trade loans following the decision to block Iraqi oil imports. The government's export credit guarantee department

faces losses estimated at up to £570 million from credit facilities it has granted the Iraqi government since 1983.

In effect it means the British will have paid for part of Iraq's rebuilding programme since the end of its war with Iran. Suppliers include Babcock International, Rolls-Royce and Davy.

The ECGD guarantees to pay British companies up to 85 per cent of any export order if the customer fails to settle within 90 days. In June, ECGD suspended Iraq's lines of credit when it fell behind on repayments. Since then no further funds have been sent.

Midland Bank, with Morgan Grenfell, acted as the agent for the ECGD for the credit lines, and faces its own losses on loans to the Iraqi government to finance the 15 per cent of orders not covered by the ECGD. Restrictions have been lifted by the United Bank of Kuwait after both the Bank of England and the Federal Reserve Board, based in New York, accepted it was a London-based bank and fell outside Britain and America's freezing orders.

Records were set on Thursday and Friday when more than 50,000 contracts were traded, half the daily volume in New York. Clearing house deposits in London have doubled from \$600 to \$1,200 and are expected to rise again if trading stays frenetic.

Sentiment among the lads — there is one woman, Val Chitty — was bullish on the price of oil. "It's going up, up, up," was the scornful reply.

On the floor, there was one sad, deserted pit that was supposed to be trading the new contract for Dubai crude introduced about two weeks ago but liquidity has dried up.

Two ejected traders sat on the edge of the pit and tore dealing stubs into confetti while the real war was being fought in the pit next door.

currency replacing the traditional barter deals.

East European countries are also

protected from price rises through agreements which fixed prices on the basis of a five-year rolling average. As a response to the Soviet moves, some East European countries have entered contracts with Opec countries. Romania, for example, entered a ten-year agreement for 5.6 million tonnes of oil. Most

contracts between East Europe and Opec involve supplies from Iran and Iraq. East European countries have already been affected as production in the Soviet Union currently runs at 4.5 per cent below last year's levels.

The cumulative effect of the change in Soviet export strategy and rise in oil prices will affect East Europe in the same way as the rest of the world was hit

by the first oil crisis in 1973-74 when oil prices quadrupled.

The situation could also affect the economic reform programmes in East Europe. Inflation, which will invariably rise in Czechoslovakia by the beginning of next year following the abolition of price subsidies, will receive an additional push, and may result in an even more restrictive monetary policy by the Czech authorities.

Vladimir Dlouhy, the economics minister, said that the decision by the Soviet Union to introduce world market prices has already led to some delays in the economic reform programme.

Geoffrey Pyne, an oil markets analyst at UBS Phillips & Drew, said the rise in oil prices would knock at least 10 per cent off East Europe's gross national product compared with last year.

At the first oil crisis in 1973-74 when oil prices quadrupled, the cumulative effect of the change in Soviet export strategy and rise in oil prices will affect East Europe in the same way as the rest of the world was hit

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When, on the last day of May, I wrote in this column that the scene was set for the next oil price shock, this was not because it appeared even remotely likely that Iraq would invade its rich and generally helpful little neighbour, Kuwait. It was on the basis that there was a black hole appearing in world oil supplies because of the poor and deteriorating state of the Soviet oilfields. Demand for oil is rising at 3 per cent a year, or at least it was until the price went up, and the world has been relying on Opec to lubricate the growth. It was always likely, as I wrote, that Opec would turn down the taps and firm up the price.

The catalyst for the change turned out to be Iraq rather than inadequate Soviet investment in one of its key assets, but the effect is the same and the consequences are likely to be felt to the end of the century.

Economists have run their computers and the immediate consequences of oil at \$25 a barrel have ticked out. It is inflationary, possibly up to 1 per cent in the big oil-importing

countries and half that in the America. It is deflationary, especially to economies such as America's already on the edge of recession. It has implications for interest rates.

Less easy for the computer models to predict is how the West will react. The greater danger to the economies of the Western world is that there will be an escalation of war, that supplies from Saudi Arabia will be interrupted, and even that the West will become directly involved in the conflict. Given the large number of European and American workers in the Gulf states, the need to protect them and the commercial interests of Europe and America, direct military involvement remains a worrying possibility.

The lesser danger is that governments will take fright at the worldwide collapse in share prices triggered by the invasion of Kuwait last week, seek to mitigate the damage to already

weak economies and repeat the mistakes made, most notably by Britain, in the wake of the October 1987 stock market crash.

It is easy to see how ministers could be frightened into activity which might give yet another twist to the inflationary spiral. America is already sitting on the edge of recession. The rise in oil prices will screw down domestic demand in Europe, Japan and America, and could take half a percentage point off real economic growth in the OECD, according to Midland Montagu's Robert Thomas, the impact being greater in Japan and smaller in America.

Nevertheless, as the New York stock exchange circuit-breakers popped and spluttered in the face

of an initial 100-point fall in the Dow Jones industrial average, stagflation was staring the Bush administration in the face. The cure for stagnation can be effected only at the expense of inflation, already under pressure from the oil price, and a choice of evils seems impossible to avoid.

For the newly capitalised countries of East Europe, the problems which were already becoming evident in May are inescapable in August. Those economies have had to face the loss of cheap Soviet oil, relying on free market sources to lubricate their stagger towards market economies. Now the market has turned against them, and all the problems they had two months ago have been

doubled. There is no going back, either to command economies or to cheap Soviet oil. Even if Iraq were to turn tail tonight, march back across its border and allow the previous Kuwait government to resume, oil prices would remain substantially higher than they were only weeks ago. In the end, they will reflect the inexorable growth in demand, and the limitations on supply.

It is also equally likely that the other end of the see-saw, share prices will remain lower than the levels reached this year. The hike in oil prices changes bulls into bears, and economies that looked sound, if unexciting, a week ago are starting to appear weak. It is possibly relevant that the fall in the London market took a while to get going. There was ample opportunity for selling at much higher levels than yesterday at the tail end of last week, after the Iraqi tanks rolled across the economic lawns of Kuwait City. But the major price correction

did not come until after the weekend, which does suggest some thought went into the positioning of equity prices.

The fundamental change in the oil price has its positive side for Britain, but its inflationary effects are likely to be such that entry of this country into the exchange rate mechanism will have to be put back from the provisional timetable which would have had the government signing the dotted line this year. The ERM has had difficulty accommodating the peseta because of Spain's high interest rates and inflation, but the introduction of a widely traded currency such as sterling, at present levels of interest rates, might burst the ERM apart. Given a controlled exchange rate for sterling, funds would move from the strong but lower yielding currencies such as the franc and the mark into the more rewarding pound.

Markets have yet to take on board that the Iraqi action is likely to set back Britain's ERM membership, but when they do, any hopes of short-term recovery will have to be postponed.

We have seen the last of cheap oil

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

Shell chief takes up the green challenge

JOHN CHAPMAN



Chairman elect: John Collins of Shell UK

customers. As a high-flier within Shell, on a fast-track career pattern, Collins has already sampled the consequences of soaring prices when, in the group's petrochemicals division, he wielded a heavy restructuring axe in the post-Iranian revolution period.

Living with fluctuating prices is all part of an oilman's job. But in strategic terms, Collins is certain that the most important issue for leading energy industry executives is the environment and global warming.

Like a supertanker, the world economy is set on a course which will be difficult to alter. The five-fold increase

in energy demand in the past century has relied heavily on the highly polluting fossil fuels. Oil, gas and coal provide 80 per cent of the world's needs.

The past two oil shocks have generated massive spending on fuel efficiency and the search for alternative energy forms. Since the mid-1970s the leading economies of the world have achieved their growth on a static or falling demand for energy.

For Collins, and indeed his industry, the future will be dominated by thoughts of the vast resources needed to curb greenhouse gases without stalling economic growth and the commercial implications

of the resulting energy demand mix. Collins points out that according to US Government estimates, cutting emissions of greenhouse gases by 20 per cent over the next 15 years would cost the staggering sum of \$100 billion-\$200 billion each year.

Inevitably, he says, there will have to be a shift to cleaner technology, fuel efficiency and a search for greener products. As providers of services, the oil companies would have an additional role to promote energy saving and efficiency.

Until he takes up his post, Collins is reluctant to discuss the operational changes he may have in mind. In the eyes of his colleagues he has a tough task following in the footsteps of Sir Bob Reid, the new British Rail chairman who is continuing as Shell UK's part-time chairman until October.

But as a tough, experienced product of Shell's on-the-job training scheme, they say he is likely to progress to even greater responsibilities within the group.

Born in Zimbabwe, and educated at Campbell College, Belfast and Reading University, where he read agriculture, Collins first worked in Africa on the technical development of agri-chemicals. For much of his time afterwards, he worked in chemicals in Africa, South America and London and has come to the wider aspects of the group later in his career.

After looking at a possible offer for PowerGen, Collins remains more than ever convinced that he would be more gainfully employed ensuring that Shell UK sticks to its last.

The capital needs of the group's exploration activities and its downstream refining and marketing operations will be considerable in the years to come, he says.

Helping to provide that capital and making sure that operations run efficiently is more than a satisfying task without venturing into high profile ventures such as PowerGen, he says.

John Bell
City Editor

THE TIMES CITY DIARY



Clever Trevor moves on

EIGHT weeks after walking out as head of derivatives at CSFB, the securities trading arm of Credit Suisse, Trevor Robinson has joined Fidelity to set up a department dealing in futures and options. Robinson, aged 37, who joins the firm as a director, has been given a free hand to build a derivatives team from scratch. And living up to his nickname "Clever Trevor", he will be keeping an eye out for fresh talent to help him in his task. "We will probably build up a team of about six people over the next two years," says Robinson, who left CSFB after a derivatives team from Bankers Trust was brought in, under his nose, to do much the same thing. As he settled into his new Lovat Lane offices yesterday, Robinson - who became known as "Super Bear" during the late Eighties because of his distrust of equities - concedes that Hans-Joerg Rudloff, the CSFB chairman, may have done him a favour. "I haven't owned property since the summer of 1987, and events at CSFB put me off buying. Since then the housing market has come my way, but I still don't own any shares." Perhaps this is just as well.

Bullet dodger

FRANCOIS de Rancourt, newly-appointed senior managing director of Banque Paribas, knows as much about dodging bullets as coping with the stress of high finance. For de Rancourt, aged 51, who arrived in London last month after a six-year spell with

Ottoman Bank in Istanbul, almost died in 1985 after a Turkish security guard shot him five times in the arm and leg as he was leaving his offices. "I was descending the marble staircase when one of the guards lost his head," said de Rancourt, who was lucky to escape with his life. "Luckily there was a small escape route nearby, and I was able to crawl to safety." More than a month ago, accompanied by his wife, Therese, and their two sons, the change of pace has done little to improve his sense of dress. "He was dressed in a shabby suit," says one fellow passenger, who spotted the Lawson entourage strolling across the tarmac.

THE deputy secretary of the War Risks Rating Committee, the body used by syndicates at Lloyd's to assess cargoes in the Gulf and other danger zones, is a Mr De' Ath.

Man of the people

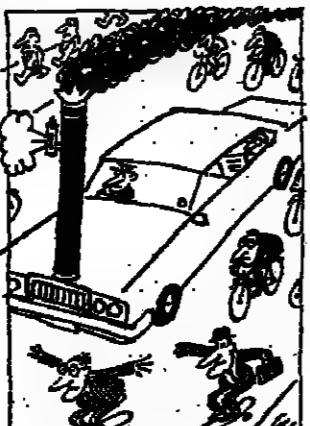
SIR Bob Reid, the well-liked chairman and chief executive of Shell, has never been one to talk down to his employees. For Sir Bob, aged 56, soon to take up full-time chairmanship of British Rail after 34 years with Shell, invited all manner of staff to his farewell bash two weeks ago. Among the revellers who flocked to the Victoria & Albert museum for the party were cleaning staff from Shell-Mex House, many of them West African. Some turned up in national dress and were taken aback when Sir Bob, who once worked for Shell Nigeria, began charting to them in their local dialect. And a handful of BR's 134,000 workers have

already had a taste of what to expect of their new chairman. For he recently paid an impromptu visit to the driver's rest room at Waterloo, thereby missing his next two trains.

Laurentian stakes

AS BROKERS brace themselves for another gloomy day in the Square Mile, they may take a tip or two from Britain's life assurance companies. Few could be more relaxed than Laurentian Life, which is launching its latest venture to help the world's rainforests. Directors gather at London Zoo this morning to see off Paul Korbel, a Radio 4 producer, and Cathy Brooks, of Friends of the Earth, who hope to raise £50,000 towards rainforest conservation by cycling from Australia to London. The pair fly to Sydney on Saturday to begin their epic trip, which is expected to take 15 months. And Laurentian, never one to miss a good opportunity, hopes to fly 250 of its top salesmen and women to Pinang in Malaysia next May, to give them a rousing welcome. "We aim to mix business with some fun," quips Simon Freedman, corporate sales and marketing director, who says the trip will be a reward for the top business producers. But with return flights to Pinang costing anything from £649 a head, Laurentian will be lucky to escape with a bill for less than £150,000, leaving its cycling sponsorship somewhat in the shade.

Jon Ashworth



Fighting fashion

THE latest events in the Gulf will be of little comfort to John Major, who is already using most of his juggling skills in the battle against inflation. But they may be of less

TEMPUS

BBA's long-running battle

IS DEFENCE industry exposure going to come back into fashion post-Kuwait? Possibly, if the interim results presentation at BBA Group, the automotive and aviation components and services company, is anything to go by.

It has a 10 per cent exposure to defence, which it now cannot decide whether to play down because of improving East-West relations or emphasise because of the worsening Gulf situation.

More importantly, BBA is continuing to fight its own long-running battle on the home front, where margins in the automotive components aftermarket show no signs of picking up. Automotive operating profits for the first half were down £7 million to £25 million, reflecting a decline in margins from 9.3 per cent last year to 7.5 per cent.

After two years of downturn, BBA argues that the French and UK aftermarkets should pick up in the second half and next year. In theory, maybe, but analysts are beginning to express bewilderment at the length of the current downturn, which has exceeded all predictions based on cyclical de-stocking projections.

The UK and French automotive markets aside, the group looks in good shape. Pre-tax profits for the six months to end June were up 14.4 per cent at £46.1 million, although a higher tax charge, caused by ACT problems, means a 4 per cent dip in earnings.

The market is most excited about BBA's moves in the US aviation services market. The planned \$23 million ac-

quisition of airport services group Van Dusen will double the size of BBA's US operations in that market.

The US purchases already mean that the automotive side contributes only 43 per cent of profits, against 56 per cent last year and 72 per cent in 1988. In the medium term, BBA says it is comfortable with the current balance, though longer term, a 75 per cent non-automotive contribution is the target.

With UK car production set to fall by more than 10 per cent in 1990, analysts will have new objections to this strategy. Full-year profit forecasts in the £90 to £95 million range puts BBA on a prospective multiple of eight times earnings. Whether the automotive upturn comes next year or in 1992, the shares should be regarded as a long-term hold.

Finlan Group

IT IS difficult to see why anyone should subscribe for new shares in the hotchpotch that is Finlan Group. Even existing shareholders should question the group's survival prospects before committing fresh resources.

The new shares may only cost 2p each, but the minimum £6 million that is required for the group's survival is still as they say, £6 million.

Having reported pre-tax losses of £8.3 million for the year to March and passed the dividend, the virtually unchanged Finlan management now wants up to £7.9 million of new money to keep its executives in jobs. Only former executive chairman

Michael Rhode further reduces his role by becoming a non-executive director.

He became non executive chairman last September, shortly before the company decided that perhaps capitalising interest in its development programme was not the best of ideas. As a result of the change pre-tax profits for the year to March 1989 have been restated to £2.4 million, against the original figure of £4.1 million.

Despite the warning of substantial losses in April, yesterday's announcement still contained some unpleasant surprises. For instance, the group's residential division made a loss after extraordinary items of £4.3 million.

It has fared little better at commercial development. Having sold two Covent Garden buildings to Hudson Conway in March last year for £11.5 million, it was obliged under the terms of a put option to buy them back in March this year for £13.5 million. Now Finlan is to sell the buildings once more - again to Hudson Conway but this time for £10 million, although a further £1.5 million may become payable if Hudson Conway sells the building. As to the monies raised? They will be used to pay Hudson Conway the outstanding amount it is still owed under the put option.

TDG

TRANSPORT Development Group is hoping more than most that oil prices will subside. The company's fuel bill last year was 14 per cent of

revenue, or £84 million, of which one-third is customer contract based. So in a very competitive market, TDG has to chose its timing as to when to on-pass the cost increases related to the remaining £56 million.

TDG already suffered from difficult trading in the six months to end-June, with pre-tax profits down from £19.8 million to £17.8 million and operating margins on continuing interests slipping from 7.5 per cent to 6.8 per cent.

But for the surprising strength of the sectors of the British economy it serves, TDG might well have performed even worse. The results from Europe were almost £1 million down at £4.75 million, profits from America tumbled from £1.52 million to £379,000. US operations are under review, and Australia (though up) was still patchy. Group results were dented by £568,000 (£603,000) of above-the-line redundancy charges, and there was a £1.24 million (£1.1 million) extraordinary charge taken below the line for further restructuring costs.

The shares command a modest and increasingly fragile premium on the market, as the interim dividend is merely maintained at 3p, and the outlook for the year depends heavily on there being "no sharp recession" in the British economy.

The oil price factor has seen year-end forecasts clipped from £42 million to £36 million, compared with an actual £41.5 million achieved in 1989, and at 192p, down 12p, on a prospective 11.7 p/e the shares are dear.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Sock Shop plea

From Mr J. Fairchild
Sir, The demise of the Sock Shop has twice been reported in your newspaper. The first report intimated a write-off of some £15 million by the banks and both reports indicated Miss Mirman and her husband would be setting up in business "before Christmas". This may be optimistic, but perhaps you could explain:

1. How is it possible for the two proprietors (major shareholders) to walk away from debt of this magnitude?
2. Why are they not called to account, and made legally responsible for reparation?
3. What numbers of suppliers have been sunk without trace?

As a joint proprietor in a professional firm, who has the ultimate difficulty, particularly with present market conditions, of persuading a bank to provide a decent trading overdraft; and who could not walk away from any business problem, of whatever magnitude, I find the whole situation incomprehensible.

Perhaps we could have a statement from the banks also! Yours faithfully,
J. Fairchild,
63 Meadowbank
Hitchin, Herts.

Estate agents and insurance policies

From Mr R.H. Foster
Sir, I write as a solicitor in private practice. I read with great interest, as did my colleagues, your Comment (July 11) about the Prudential's incursion into estate agency.

Part of the reason for the buying up of estate agencies by insurance companies and building societies was, of course, to sell insurance products to the buyers of houses, which likewise attract very large commission rates.

Frankly, I find it totally outrageous that an estate agent selling a house on behalf of a vendor, and charging substantial commission also tries to take a cut from the buyer as well. It is not only immoral but leads to a conflict of interests.

Yours faithfully,
P.C. HOLDNESS
Pipers Rest,
Missenden Road,
Great Missenden, Bucks.

European Commission should examine Fujitsu bid for ICL

From Mr J. Moorhouse MEP
Sir, The news that one of the Japanese government's champions in the computer race, Fujitsu, is set to buy out Britain's largest computer company, ICL, will cause concern in many quarters.

The move brings to mind the Fairchild Semiconductor Company in Brussels which was, however, withdrawn after opposition by the US administration on the grounds that the US was becoming too dependent on the Japanese for critical technology.

Surely we should, at least, ask ourselves whether or not the US stand should be taken as a precedent for Britain and Europe as a whole.

However much it may suit the book of certain vested interests, one should, without doubt, subject this initiative to the most rigorous scrutiny, placing the highest priority on

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THE TIMES TUESDAY AUGUST 7 1990

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THE LAW

How private is your privacy?

We all like to think that our private affairs, particularly our finances, are not open to prying eyes. Any idea that strangers could examine our bank accounts is abhorrent: not because of any fear that such an examination, even by an income tax inspector, would reveal any wrongdoing, but because privacy, particularly in the relationship of banker and customer, is a part of our civilisation that we should be able to rely on.

The law supports this principle. This was confirmed by the Tournier case in 1924, which went on to deal with the exceptions, apart from when the customer consents to disclosure. These exceptions were when the bank was obliged to disclose by compulsion of law, or in the rare case of disclosure in the public interest, or when the interests of the bank required disclosure.

Readers of the "Report of the Review Committee on Banking Services", the "Jack Report", published last year, may therefore have been alarmed to note the 19 statutory exceptions to the general

LEGAL BRIEF

Derek Wheatley, QC
examines how banker
confidentiality
can be undermined

rule that were listed. However, there is the safeguard that a judge, or magistrate or commissioner of inland revenue, or the like, has first to hold that a good case has been made out to indicate that the account in question does not belong to an honest person, but to some miscreant, and that the details revealed are needed to prove a case against him that the authority in question already knows about from other sources.

The Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 was needed to guard against the laundering of the proceeds of drug trafficking. It created a new offence when, for

example, a bank or building society fails to report to the police a transaction that it suspects is connected with drug trafficking. It was said at the time that drug trafficking was so serious that it justified a new duty to reveal a customer's affairs on suspicion.

The move was not to be repeated. The relevant minister said so in the House of Commons because of uneasiness that this was a new departure. After all, it was not required that any case should first be made out to a judge, and suspicion can be mistaken. Furthermore, the clerks who suspected, but did not report, is punishable, by s.24, with imprisonment for up to 14 years.

The Prevention of Terrorism Act followed last year. It was as right and necessary to arm the law against terrorism as it was against drug trafficking, but this time the rules relating to "terrorist money" went even further. The official handling a financial transaction without reporting it is once more guilty of an offence punishable with up to 14 years' imprisonment, not this time if he suspects it involves "terrorist money", but,

by s.13 (2) (b) (ii), if he "knew or had reasonable grounds to suspect" that it does.

The act gives no indication of what constitutes such reasonable grounds for suspicion and leaves the unhappy situation that a not very alert clerk who did not suspect might be guilty of the offence because others brighter than he would have done so.

One of the four main aims of the Jack committee was "to preserve and consolidate the banker's duty of confidentiality to his customer". It recommended a new



The problem: confidentiality between banker and customer can provide a shield for criminals



Pledge: Richard Ryder, the economic secretary, gave the Commons an assurance on continued confidentiality

statute to codify the various exceptions to the duty of confidentiality. Now a white paper discloses the government's plans to implement the recommendation. Sadly it "... does not accept the ... suggestion that there has been a massive erosion of the banker's duty of confidentiality through ... statutory exceptions affecting only the very small number of customers who use the banking system dishonestly".

Of course we must counter drug trafficking and terrorism; they are special cases. However, enforced disclosures of private banking should not be extended further, lest this should lead to a general erosion of banking confidentiality.

Recently, the inland revenue attempted to seize wide powers to search bank accounts at random by a clause in the 1990 Finance

Bill that amended the Taxes Act 1988. On being questioned in the Commons, however, Richard Ryder, the economic secretary, thought again and gave an unequivocal assurance on the amendment, saying "There is no question of a fishing expedition."

The end does not justify the means, and the principle of confidentiality for our bank accounts is still, and should remain, inviolate.

• The author, a practising barrister at 3 Grays Inn Place, is a member of the Bar Council and Commercial Committee.

Law Report August 7 1990 Court of Appeal

Draconian effect of confiscation orders under drugs trafficking Act

Regina v Robson
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Rose and Mr Justice Casier
(Judgment July 30)

A striking and extraordinary consequence of the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 was that the court's powers were so draconian as to be able to deprive the legal owner of property of some or all beneficial interest in it without the owner having any opportunity to present arguments against such a conclusion.

Mr Justice Rose so stated when giving the reserved judgment of the Court of Appeal on an appeal by Steven Kenneth Robson, now aged 39, a self-employed builder, of Woodhouse Way, Cambridge, against a confiscation order of £18,361 made by Judge Beech at Cambridge Crown Court on pleas of guilty to two counts of

possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply (cannabis resin and amphetamine sulphate) for each of which he was sentenced to two years imprisonment concurrent, and possession of amphetamine sulphate, for which the concurrent sentence was six months.

The confiscation order of £18,361 was quashed and a confiscation order of £1,490 was substituted.

Mr Roger D. Harrison, signed by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant: Mr Jonathan Haworth for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE ROSE said that, with regard to the confiscation proceedings, it was conceded that the sum of £1,490 in cash found in the house was realisable property within the meaning of section 5 of the 1986 Act.

The dispute which the judge

had to resolve was whether the house, at Woodhouse Way, Cambridge, was also realisable property. He found that it was and that the appellant had a 60 per cent and his mother a 40 per cent interest in that property. It was against that finding that the appeal was brought.

In accordance with the Act the judge had to determine:

1 Whether the appellant had benefited from drug trafficking (section 1(2));

2 The value of the appellant's proceeds of drug trafficking (sections 1(4) and 4(1));

3 Whether the realisable property held by him included a beneficial interest in the house (sections 4(3) and 5(1));

4 If it did, whether that interest or some part of it represented the proceeds of drug trafficking (section 5(5)(b) and 5(6)(b)).

The judge's determination on questions 1 and 2 was unchallenged, namely, that the

appellant had benefited from drug trafficking to the extent of £8,750. In answer to questions 3 and 4 the judge determined that the appellant had a 60 per cent interest in the house and that interest represented the proceeds of drug trafficking so as to justify the confiscation order of £18,361. Findings 3 and 4 were challenged by way of appeal.

Unchallenged or not disputed were the judge's findings that the house, said to be worth £72,500 at the time of the order, had been bought in August 1987 for £39,500 in the mother's name; she paid the deposit of £2,500 and the legal costs and expenses and also contributed £3,000 towards improvements.

From September 1987 to October 1988 14 monthly mortgage payments, each of £320 were made. The appellant, who had been released from prison earlier in 1987, went to live in the house in September 1987.

A number of lodgers, who paid a total sum of £3,000 to the appellant, also lived there before November 1988 when the appellant's occupancy ceased following his remand in custody. The appellant's mother never lived in the house.

The appellant began drug trafficking in March 1988 and, in consequence, six mortgage payments were treated as having been made before and after eight drug trafficking began. He paid outgoings on the property, including gas, electricity and

The judge found that both the appellant and his mother were liars but it was not the Crown's case that she knew of the appellant's activities involving drugs.

Before the judge it was common ground between counsel that, in order for a finding to be made that the appellant had an equitable interest in the house, it

was necessary for the judge to be satisfied that there was a common intention on the part of the appellant and his mother that he should have a beneficial interest in the property.

The judge inferred such an intention from four factors, which he set out in a crucial passage:

Their Lordships had been referred to a number of authorities: *Evers v Evers* (1975) 1 WLR 1338; *Grant v Edwards* (1986) Ch 638; *Snell's Equity* (29th edition 1982) p18; *Underhill and Hayton: Trusts and Trustees* (14th edition 1987) pp273, 277 and *Hanbury and Maudsley: Modern Equity* (13th edition 1989) p253.

In the light of those authorities Mr Hawthorn submitted that, strictly, no common intention was necessary for a resulting trust, which arose from payment of contributions.

But here the judge found that the parties' intention was to purchase a home in which the appellant would have an interest and, having found that intention and contributions having been made, it was immaterial whether the trust was descriptive as resulting or constructive.

Their Lordships had every sympathy with the judge. He faced a formidable task.

It was a striking and extre-

me measure that the court's powers were so draconian that it seemed able to deprive the legal owner of property of some or all of his or her beneficial interest in it without the owner having any opportunity to present the arguments against such a conclusion.

However, in their Lordships' judgment, the judge fell into error. The conclusion was inevitable that in the crucial passage he made no finding that the outgoings paid by the appellant to the house were referable to the purchase of the house.

The mere fact that the appellant contributed sums which the mother applied to the mortgage did not, in their Lordships' judgment, in the present case, establish that the intention of the parties was that such payments should be allocated to the cost of capital acquisition. Nor, indeed, could it be said that there was any necessary or likely detriment to the appellant by making those payments.

Accordingly, the judge's finding that the appellant had an equitable interest in the house could not be sustained. The fourth question did not arise.

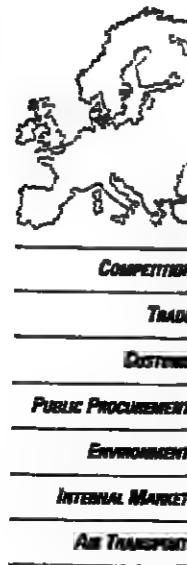
The appeal would be allowed to the extent of quashing the confiscation order made by the judge and substituting for it a confiscation order in the sum of £1,490, with 45 days imprisonment in default.

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Regina v Chief Constable of North Wales, Ex parte Hughes

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Nicholls
(Judgment July 24)

Regulation 27.1 of the Police (Discipline) Regulations (SI 1985 No 518) which referred to suspension "from membership of the force and from his office of constable" did not have the effect of causing a suspended officer to cease to be a member of the Police Federation.

Whether a suspended officer was included in the phrase "a member of a police force" or "a member of the force" in the context in which it was used by the judge in his decision to suspend an officer did not affect the period of suspension.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment refusing an application for judicial review of two decisions of the Chief Constable of North Wales made on January 5 and 26, 1989, refusing permission to the applicant, Police Constable Anthony Hughes, a suspended officer, to attend Police Federation meetings at police headquarters.

Mr Roger Henderson, QC and Mr Philip Havers, for the applicant; Mr Eldred Tabachnick, QC and Mr Daniel Tanner for the chief constable.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said two different constructions were put on the regulation referred to suspension "from membership of the force and from his office of constable".

The applicant submitted that although the regulation referred to suspension "from membership of the force and from his office of constable" the effect of a decision to suspend was

THE LAW

Getting together in the Temple

Merging chambers to cut costs and improve efficiency is not as easy as it sounds, say two barristers who last week linked their operations

The amalgamation last week of two Temple chambers to create a new set, to be known as 12 King's Bench Walk, has been widely suggested as just the first in a series of such developments. Ronald Walker QC, the head of the merged chambers, begs to disagree.

"It is not at all easy to merge," he says. "The only reason we were able to do so with Julian Gibson-Watt's set was that we already shared the same building. The difficulties of finding suitable, affordable accommodation is going to be a major obstacle to other chambers following our example."

Despite the difficulties, Mr Walker is convinced that mergers will be vital to secure the future. "A common law set of chambers needs to be large in order to provide the specialisation that the clients are looking for," he says.

The new 12 King's Bench Walk has immediately put in train a programme of modernisation, which will make it a model for the new generation of barristers. A "six-figure sum" is being spent on refurbishing the offices.

Conference facilities are being installed incorporating the latest



Partners: Ronald Walker QC (left) and Julian Gibson-Watt will spend a "six-figure sum" on modernising

communications technology. Video conferencing is just around the corner and a new computer system is on its way. "We're committed to obtaining whatever is necessary, whatever the cost, by way of computers," Mr Walker says. "Barristers' chambers need to be furnished up to the highest standards of modern offices."

Critically linked to this process of bringing chambers up to date is a restructuring of the chambers'

administrative facilities. Inadequate administration can easily lose work for the set. Mr Walker is determined that his members should be served by a streamlined, efficient and administrative infrastructure that would ensure that no letter is ever lost, no telephone call goes unanswered, and that bills are sent out promptly and accurately.

"We have introduced a new diary system by which each diary will be looked after by two clerks, so that

there will always be someone in the clerk's office who knows exactly what each barrister is doing."

Of course, the brilliant advocate will always be busy, but the new philosophy at 12 King's Bench Walk acknowledges that the competition for work will be largely fought out at the corporate rather than the individual level.

"A lot of work comes to the chambers rather than to an individual," Mr Walker says, "so it is

important to have a set of well-run chambers behind you." This is characterised by the increase in direct access work. If they are offering themselves for direct access, barristers are expected to be instantly and constantly accessible.

Alongside the ability to create a stronger infrastructure, however, Mr Walker was able to point out good business reasons why a merger was now the right thing to do.

The need to be in full command of barristers of varying seniority, the importance of being able to put more money into sponsorship and recruitment, together, of course, with the higher profile created by a bigger set all led Mr Walker and Julian Gibson-Watt to believe that they were doing the right thing in linking their chambers.

The question of whether to create a stronger infrastructure, however, Mr Walker was able to point out good business reasons why a merger was now the right thing to do.

Like all mergers, however, the effectiveness of it will depend largely on how well the two sets of people get on together. Fortunately, they had always been good neighbours and, although not particularly close, there was mutual confidence that they could live with each other. Most important, the clerks signalled that they could work together.

Mr Walker regards his new set as offering an example of what the Bar can update itself and show that it can provide just as efficient and modern a service as firms of solicitors. Advocacy skills may be the Bar's unique strength but everything else is open to competition.

By improving the corporate infrastructure, by giving young talent a better start, and by enabling barristers to get on and apply their skills more efficiently, Mr Walker hopes that he is ensuring a better future for his members.

EDWARD FENNELL

The so-called "Iraqi gun" affair has broader and somewhat more bizarre implications than most people, including lawyers, realise. Quite innocent contraventions of export controls can, theoretically, put all sorts of people at risk of a criminal conviction, forfeiture of the goods concerned and a fine of up to three times their value.

As might be expected, controls apply to exports of high-technology goods that could be put to military use. However, some seemingly innocuous goods are also involved. For example, controls apply, with some exceptions, to anything made more than 50 years before export, presumably to cover antiques. This could,

however, include things such as

1930s bric-a-brac, old clothes and toys.

Other examples are unlicensed exports of live pigeons, of salmon and trout caught at certain times, cacao beans, sawdust and various kinds of scrap metal.

Clearly, Customs & Excise would use its judgment before prosecuting someone who is ignorant of the regulations, but many a managing and sales director would do well to consider his or her position.

The most radical and welcome rationalisation of the high-technology controls is taking place in stages this year. Since July 1, several categories of goods have been permitted to be exported without an export licence. These include technology for gas turbine engines, steel alloys, polycarbonate sheets, transistors, solid-state amplifiers, oscilloscopes and floating docks.

In the key areas of machine tools, computers and telecommunications, the prohibitions

on exports have been relaxed significantly, but for some equipment, export licences must still be obtained.

Further changes are to be made this month and, says the trade and industry department, it is hoped that all the proposed radical reforms can be implemented this year.

It is a serious mistake to ignore the regulations that remain. The penalties for being knowingly concerned in exporting without a licence are heavy: the people involved could be

arrested on reasonable suspicion at any time up to 20 years after the offence was committed and be subject to unlimited fines and jail for up to seven years.

Company directors should take note of the position when approving contracts, particularly for goods of significant value. Sentences imposed by the courts since 1985 concerning computer equipment have included fines of £30,000 and three years' imprisonment.

Furthermore, it is not yet

clear how wide the net goes. The exporter is liable and so is the shipper. The legislation is relatively recent (1979) so there is little case law on who counts as the "shipper" for these particular purposes.

The regulations are complex if in doubt, apply to the export licensing division of the trade and industry department for a licence (6th floor, King's Gate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SW, 071-215 8070). Provide full written details: in addition to the risk of misunderstanding on the telephone, there are penalties for giving false information.

• The author is a solicitor in the commercial and trade law department of Simmons & Simmons' London office.

Managers ignorant of export controls could end up in the dock, says Clifford Miller

The risk of taking business abroad

however, include things such as

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INNS AND OUTS

A drive to recruit more black magistrates has been undertaken by the London borough of Hammersmith and Fulham in response to clear signals from the Home Office and the Lord Chancellor's department that there should be more people from black and ethnic minority communities in the judiciary and the magistracy. The latest figures from the Lord Chancellor's department (January 1987) show that of 23,735 active magistrates only 455 were black.

A leaflet published by Hammersmith and Fulham council encourages people to put themselves forward and explains the procedure by which magistrates are selected.

The question of specifically encouraging black people into the profession and the judiciary arose at the Society of Black Lawyers' annual conference held last weekend in Bristol, but views diverged on whether specific targeting is either necessary or desirable. Among the delegates was the Hon Mr Justice Henry Brooke, chairman of the Bar's Race Relations Committee, who also learned of the society's misgivings about requesting judges to undergo anti-racism training.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants is backing the Law Commission's recommendation to change the law on contributory negligence to allow judges to apportion damages in breach of contract cases where the plaintiff is partly to blame for the breach. In a memorandum to the commission, the institute argues that the Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Act, 1945, should be amended to extend the ability to apportion damages in tort cases to all contract disputes. The institute says: "We have long recognised that there have been an increasing number of claims brought against accountants (based in contract and in tort) and that the damages sought have been, on occasion, out of proportion to the role and responsibility of the accountant or the auditor. This, in turn, has had an adverse effect upon the availability of and terms on which professional indemnity insurance can be obtained."

The institute argues that it is unsatisfactory that there is still uncertainty over whether the ability to apportion damages applies under the 1945 act, where the liability arises solely under contract but the contract requires the accountant to use reasonable skill or care. It says that the determining factor for apportioning liability should be the express or implied responsibility of the plaintiff and the defendant, and not the legal basis of the duty – be it contract or tort, statute or common law.

How effective the law can be in redressing discrimination in employment is a problem that has re-emerged in the debate over the employment of people with disabilities. Can a legally imposed quota do anything to ensure that people with disabilities are fairly represented in the work force? The 3 per cent quota which applies to all workplaces employing more than 20 people has been in existence since the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act was passed in 1944, but the government's consultation paper, "Employment and training for people with disabilities", has come down on the side of not imposing a quota, arguing that anti-discrimination legislation may be counterproductive with employers, is difficult to enforce and hard to draft. Organisations for the handicapped disagree, saying a quota is the best way of protecting people with disabilities from discrimination. Lawyers with views on whether a quota should be imposed have until December 31 to submit comments to the employment department.

Europe is proving more alluring to American law firms than the Far East, especially the turbulent Chinese and Hong Kong markets. The latest arrival in London is the New York law firm Paul Weiss Rifkind & Garrison, which caused a stir when it closed its five-lawyer Hong Kong office last month after spending years building a leading China practice. After Tiananmen Square work has tailed off and the firm is hedging its bets by winding down its Peking office to one associate, rather than closing the office. The London venture will be staffed by one corporate partner, Neale Albert, and two associates.

SCRIVENOR

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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Expanding young firm with established commercial practice in the Bath/Bristol/Swindon area requires qualified litigator with up to two years experience. Competitive salary and prospects for ambitious and able applicant.

Please write with CV to: Nick Watson, Macfarlane Guy, 3 Kingmead Square, Bath, Avon, BA1 2AB. Tel. 0225 333800.

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Due to continued growth the following post is immediately available (the listed start date is January 1991, with three years in the first instance).
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Applicants should be interested in teaching at a Business School and have an interest in the following areas:
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A postdoctoral would be welcome.
Salary will either be on the Lecture A scale £12,086-£16,795 p.a. or on the Lecture B scale £17,455-£22,311 p.a. with placement according to age and experience.

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Lawyer with up to 2 years' experience of contentious work is sought by City firm with pre-eminent reputation for its shipping and international trade work on behalf of high profile clients including shipowners, charterers and leading P&I Clubs. Opportunities for world-wide travel and excellent prospects.

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Well known City practice seeks high calibre newly/recently qualified assistant for a challenging mix of company/commercial work including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, MBO's, MBI's and venture capital work. Excellent training provided, together with prospects which will not fail to appeal.

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Leading international City practice seeks further high calibre lawyer 0-2 years' qualified for all aspects of non-contentious insolvency. Good academic and relevant experience necessary although training will be provided. Very good salary, benefits package and prospects.

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A recognised City practice wishes to appoint an additional solicitor, admitted for about two years, to join its established and expanding Employment Department.

The Department handles the complete range of employment law matters, both contentious and non-contentious. A sound academic record, good relevant experience and an analytical and creative approach are prerequisites. The salary package and prospects will be excellent, reflecting the significance attached to this post.

Please apply, in strict confidence, to: Mack Dinshaw (Managing Director) or Stephen Watkins (Director).

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Applications with full CV should be submitted to Andrew Fleming, Macfarlane Murray & Spens, 151 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5Nj.

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The top ten firms urgently requires a Litigation solicitor with at least 3-5 years' experience in wet and dry marine work. You will have a good academic background and experience gained with a London firm.

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The above are only a small selection from the positions we are currently instructed to fill. If you would like to discuss any of these or any other aspect of your career, please telephone Lawrence Simons, Simon McDonald or Patrick Afford

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We are qualified lawyers with extensive experience in legal recruitment and all approaches are treated in strict confidence.

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HORIZONS

Uncorking the mystique with a business flair

Forget the glamour. Forget the mystique. Wine buying is no more about sipping fine wines in a sun-ripened vineyard than it is about esoteric tasting rituals ministering to exquisitely refined palates. "It is not all jetting off, spitting and sniffing," says Sainsbury's Alan Cheesman. It is, however, a career that involves hard work and long hours.

Yet most buyers are enthusiastic about the job. Tesco's Stephen Clarke enjoys being able to innovate: "Within a short space of time, you can make a name for yourself as the buyer who introduced a new wine into the UK."

Buying involves finding the right wines for the market and investing in them — knowing how much of what to buy and when. Buyers must be able to follow and predict market trends when drawing up a company's wine list or developing a pricing or marketing strategy. They have to display good numeracy and communication skills, especially when negotiating foreign orders worth thousands of pounds.

Wine buyers are responsible for keeping track of stock levels, transportation and warehousing, as well as quality control. Their exact duties, however, depend on the size and nature of the company. In smaller firms, buyers tend to undertake a greater variety of tasks with less support. They

Wine buyers work long, hard hours, often on weekends, yet when Linda Steele asked several if they would ever consider changing careers, they gave her an emphatic 'no'

may, perhaps, have sole responsibility for sampling imported wines to ensure that they are the same quality as when originally selected. In larger companies, there may be more opportunities to progress and be creative, for example, by asking a farmer to create a new wine to fill a gap in the market. Most buying work, including selection, takes place in this country. Buyers are sent wines to sample and they attend trade tastings. Some visit wine-producing regions as few as four times a year, others up to 18, for anything from two days to a week. Work abroad is intensive and, as a Sainsbury buyer, Liz Robertson, warns, means "freezing in a cellar in Burgundy", rather than sightseeing.

Trips involve a combination of discussion, investigation and public relations. Producers are visited in order to negotiate acceptable prices, taste new wines, check the standard of production and to

You can usually train your palate sufficiently for buying within a few years'

ensure a good relationship is maintained. As many wine-makers are small farmers, knowing at least one other EC language is an advantage. A buyer will also be on the look out for new producers and wines in the region.

Tasting may be an art, but buyers tend to be matter-of-fact about it. Edward Adams, of Co-op, says: "If you have a sense of taste and smell, you can train your palate sufficiently for the purposes of buying within just a few years." Buyers usually learn to associate each wine with a familiar scent — memory triggers that are as individual and varied as Wellington boots and gooseberries.

There are two ways of entering the wine-buying field. One is as a generic buyer. (In the supermarket chain it is common to have general retail and buying training and experience, before specialising in buying wines.) The other is by gaining wholesale or retail wine-trade experience. There are a few,

• Further information: W&SET, Queen Street Place, London EC4 and Harpers Wines & Spirits Gazette.

highly sought after, graduate traineeships offered by companies such as Grants of St James's, but Rodney Leathwaite, of International Distillers and Vintners, warns people to expect a "humble start".

Whatever route is chosen, an employee will need to study for the Wine & Spirit Education Trust examinations: the certificate, higher certificate, diploma and perhaps the prestigious Master of Wine qualification. These courses focus on knowledge of the product, not business. Buying, however, is very much in the upper reaches of the wine-trade hierarchy and it requires a wide range of experience and business acumen. Competition can be fierce and even in a large company there may only be two or three buyers.

Willie Liebus, of the independent wine merchant, Bibendum, says would-be wine buyers should gain experience by retailing in shops and pubs, selling "on the road" to hotels and restaurants and developing business skills, particularly accounting and marketing. He says: "Take the initiative. Try new wines when you eat out and ask the advice of the sommelier. Join your university wine society, go grape picking in the holidays, learn the basics and don't expect to be spoon fed."

DECIDEDLY un-chic purple sunflowers with faces beam from the Chardonnay bottle held aloft by Roger Higgs (Buyers have a say in label design.) "Wacky!" he laughs. "I enjoy working for a company that 'de-snobs' wine. I don't think I would have survived in one of those established family firms." At 27, Roger is one of a new breed of wine buyers, imbued with the service ethic and the desire to demystify wine. Young and enthusiastic, he has none of the pretensions one associates with wine tasting and readily agrees with the criticism that some firms are the "last

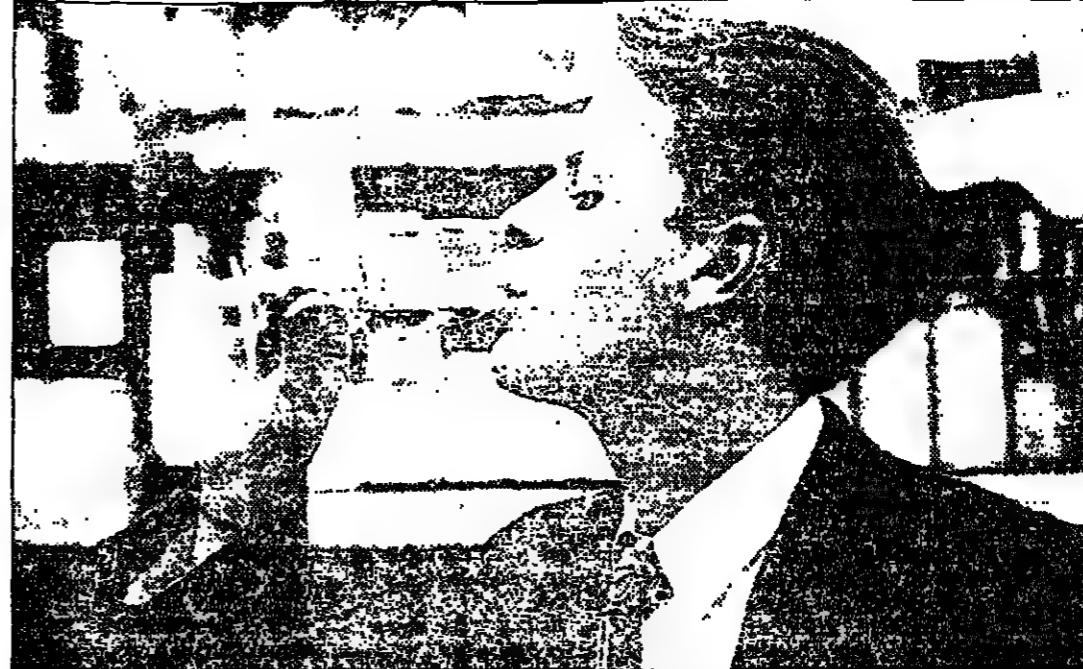
bastions of male Englishness". As a recent graduate and short of cash, Roger started working in a local Oddbins wine shop — shifting boxes in the cellar, shelf-stacking, selling and later managing. Oddbins has a policy of training all its staff. Tutored tastings are held regularly and store managers are sponsored and encouraged to study up to diploma level with the Wine and Spirit Education Trust. Within three years, Roger had become an assistant buyer. He

feels shopfloor experience is invaluable for a buyer, who needs to understand the customer.

CAREER PROFILE

"Finding a brilliant wine is one thing, but you have to know if it is right for UK tastes." Wine-trade salaries are considered low and the hours long, but Roger feels there are other rewards: "You are working in a friendly trade with a fascinating and complex commodity. Every day brings something new. It is a challenge and you have to think on your feet. And when you have bought better than anyone else, the right product at the right price, that is the best feeling."

Days of snobbery are gone



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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

071-481 1066

EAST SUFFOLK HEALTH AUTHORITY

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join our team leading the Community and Mental Health Unit to Self Governing Trust Status in 1991.

DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL AND CORPORATE SERVICES

You will be responsible for leading the Unit in all aspects of Human Resource Management and ensuring that our remuneration strategies are competitive with local markets. In addition you will also lead the administration, estates and health education services.

Salary for the post circa £21,000 per annum plus performance related pay plus lease car plus assistance with removal expenses.

Applicants should have sound experience at a senior level and preferably hold a relevant professional qualification.

For information pack and application form, telephone: The Unit Personnel Department on 03943 2111 ext. 225/6.

Closing date: August 31, 1990

Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals ACADEMIC AUDIT UNIT POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Academic Audit Unit, which has recently been established to monitor quality assurance mechanisms in UK universities, wishes to appoint a Deputy Director, to assist the Director in the establishment, operation and development of the Unit. Salary will be in the professorial range for UK universities; the post will be for three years in the first instance, and will be tenable from 1 October 1990, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Unit is to be located on the campus of the University of Birmingham.

POST OF ADMINISTRATOR /SECRETARY

The Academic Audit Unit wishes to appoint an administrator/secretary to join the team which will establish, operate and develop the Unit. Salary will be on Grade 1 (£11,398 - £13,495) or Grade 2 (£14,038 - £18,165) of the scales for administrative staff in UK universities; the post will be for three years in the first instance, and will be tenable from 1 October 1990. The Unit is to be located on the campus of the University of Birmingham.

Further details of both the above posts are available from: David Young, Assistant Secretary, Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, 29 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9EZ (071-387 8221) to whom applications should be submitted by 29 August 1990.

Parkside Health Authority Mental Health Unit

OPERATIONS MANAGER Senior Managers Pay c. £19,500

The recently restructured Mental Health Unit is looking for an Operations Manager for the Acute/Community Services sub-unit.

• Accountable to the Acute/Community Services Manager, the postholders will be highly motivated individuals able to demonstrate the strong leadership qualities and interpersonal and communication skills necessary to lead and develop a multi-disciplinary team.

As a budget holder you will be required to use resources effectively and efficiently to deliver a high standard of service.

You will have some management experience and although this may not necessarily be in general management, you will need an understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of general management.

This is an excellent career post for someone who wishes to develop their management skills.

For further information contact Mr W. T. Higgins, Acute/Community Services Manager on 071 725 1657.

For an application package please contact Julie Astbury, Senior Personnel Officer, Mental Health Unit, Central Middlesex Hospital, Acton Lane, London NW10 7NS - Telephone 081 453 2755.

Closing date: 17th August 1990.

Working Towards Equal Opportunities

ChildLine

ChildLine Wales

ChildLine, the free national helpline for children in trouble or danger, now seeks to increase its service to children in Wales and in order to do so will open an office in Cardiff during 1990. We are looking for the right people to take the lead in establishing and staffing the new centre.

APPEALS CO-ORDINATOR £17,700
We need a self motivated person to build on our existing success and ensure the necessary funds are raised to support ChildLine Wales. You will need to be creative yet practical, a good public speaker and above all sensitive to the need to get on with all types of people. Previous experience of fundraising would be an advantage.

The successful applicant will be highly committed to children and to the promotion of ChildLine's aims and objectives and, ideally be able to communicate in Welsh both orally and in writing.

Requests for further details and an application form should be sent to:

Ann Russell (Ref: ACW)
Personnel Manager
ChildLine
Royal Mail Building
Studd Street
London N1 0QW

Closing date: 31 August 1990

**University of Oxford
Study Administrator/Research Assistant
U.K. Prospective Diabetes Study**

A vacancy for the administrator/research assistant has arisen for this large-scale multi-centre study of diabetes and prevention of its complications.

The position would suit a well-organised and numerate graduate with initiative and attention to detail. You will supervise and guide the 23 participating clinics in hospitals throughout the United Kingdom, with occasional visits. The duties are wide-ranging and frequently unexpected and will be performed in collaboration with the statisticians and directors of the study and with the help of a Deputy Administrator and four clerical staff. Previous experience in a medical or scientific environment is advantageous. Problem-solving skills, word-processing knowledge and energy will help!

The position is Scientific Officer Grade 1B, Scale 10,699-15,444 p.a. with University terms of service. Further details may be obtained from Suzy Oakes (0865) 248418. Applications, including c.v., experience and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to Dr Robert Turner, Diabetes Research Laboratory, Radcliffe Infirmary, Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6HE by Thursday, 16th August.

Royal Brompton and National Heart Hospital

Unit Finance Manager

Salary: £27,000pa plus Performance Related Pay

This internationally renowned London postgraduate teaching hospital is currently integrating its clinical decision making with its overall hospital decision making. As a member of the new interprofessional UNIT MANAGEMENT BOARD with your Clinical Director colleagues, you will be involved in a major programme of change within the hospital, including the opening of new facilities in Phase 1 of the new hospital later this year and the implementation of an integrated hospital system including order communications and, of particular relevance to this post, a CASE MIX AND DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM. The hospital is also investing in its basic financial systems, including new general ledger and locally run payroll systems. Opportunities also exist for innovative work on contracting and input to other ventures within this leading-edge authority. As a hospital executive, you will report directly to the Unit General Manager, with the advantage of working in a small, specialised and highly complex hospital where there is major investment in new medical technology with ongoing research and development into the treatment of lung and chest diseases.

This demanding role requires a qualified accountant with relevant post-qualifying experience, not necessarily in the healthcare environment. You will have a proven track record in terms of applying your accountancy skills, achieving deadlines and excellent interpersonal skills. This post is ideally suited for those with career aspirations to move into general management. The Unit has extensive plans for training and education to support the changes being implemented.

For an informal discussion, please contact Mrs Cowpe, the Unit General Manager, on 071-351 8009 (direct line).

Application form and job description available from the Personnel Department, Royal Brompton and National Heart Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6HP. Tel: 071-351 8091 (24 hour answering service). Closing date: 5th September 1990.

SENIOR ASSISTANT UNIT ACCOUNTANT

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The changes currently taking place in the NHS have created the need for the individual units within our Authority to look closely at the way in which we approach the services that we provide. The Acute Services Unit within West Essex is determined to be a successful provider organisation from April, 1991.

The appointment of a Senior Unit Assistant Accountant is an essential part of our future plans to provide effective financial management support and information to our clinical directors and other senior managers at St Margaret's Hospital, Epping. This will be a hands-on role calling for someone prepared to become an innovative member of our professional team.

You will need to be progressive towards the completion of a professional accountancy qualification and possess sound technical skills coupled with excellent inter-personal skills. As communication with people at all levels is an important part of this position.

Informal enquiries can be made by calling Mr Sam Asamoah, on 0279 444455 ext 2119 or application form and job description can be obtained from: The Unit Personnel Department (Acute), Parson's Hall, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Hamstel Road, Harlow, Essex. Tel: 0279 444455.

Closing Date: August 17, 1990.

West Essex
HEALTH AUTHORITY

Never In The Red to defy weight

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

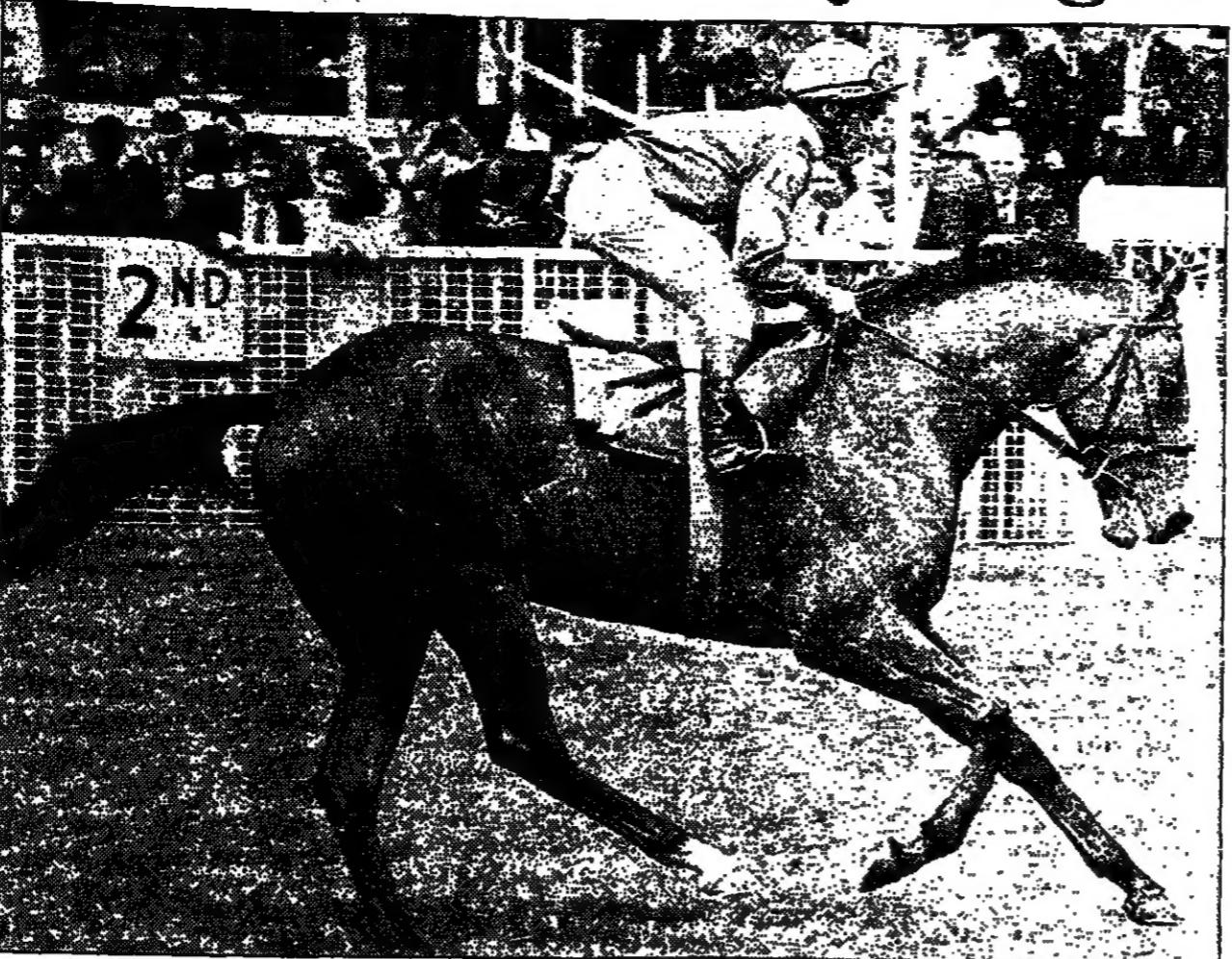
JACK Berry's ambition to train a 100 winners in a season — he is now on 98 — can move a step closer at Redcar this afternoon thanks to Never In The Red, who is tipped to win the Craven St Jean Nursery under top weight.

At Warwick last month, the son of that fast horse Wandlefield showed a blistering turn of foot to win a similar race by three lengths when carrying 9st 3lb. The manner of his victory that evening — taking an apprentice's allowance into consideration — gave the consistent Dashing Prince 26lb and a three-length beating — indicated that he should be capable of carrying 4lb more and still winning, even though Bill Stubbs has decided to try again with the runner-up instead of going for a maiden at Brighton.

Before Warwick, Never In The Red had won his maiden at Edinburgh by six lengths. That in itself was predictable in the view of the promise he had shown first time out over today's course and distance when runner-up to Pretty Poppy, herself previously second to the smart Balwa at York.

A victory for Quinzii Martin at Brighton would be a big pointer to Spinechiller's chance of beating Never In The Red. Spinechiller trounced Quinzii Martin at Catterick last Wednesday but a 7lb penalty may now take them too close to the top weight.

Earlier in the programme, Berry and his stable jockey will also be trying to win the Yorkshire Fine Wines Nursery with Hysop, who was bought in for 8,000 guineas after running away with a seller at Yarmouth a fortnight ago. In this instance though I



Sao Serenade can gain his third course and distance success in the Town Hall Handicap at Brighton today

just prefer Kogram Queen, even though she did not attract a bid after also winning a seller over today's course and distance on that same afternoon.

The way she finished that day hinted that she could be hard to peg back with bottom weight. John Lowe takes the ride for trainer Mary Revoley. Indeed, Kogram Queen could become the second leg of a double to be instigated by that tough five-year-old Melisette (245). He has already won twice over nine furlongs on

this track this season, and being a successful hurdler he should not be bothered by the slightly longer trip that the Camrose Champagne Handicap entails.

At Brighton, Flight Of Pleasure can win the Duke of Norfolk Memorial Nursery. Last time out the Ben Hanbury-trained filly was plainly out of her depth in that race won by Shimmering Sea at Sandown. But before that she won at Yarmouth and Warwick and I feel she should

be up to coping with her three rivals now.

At first sight 10st 5lb might look a lot for Sao Serenade to carry in the Town Hall Handicap, yet horses who have run well on the south coast track in the past tend to do so time and time again. I consider that he has a first-rate chance of recording his third win there following that gutsy effort against Chase The Door 12 days ago when the track record was broken. On that occasion they forged ten lengths clear of the rest.

Finally, I like the look of Gypsy River's chance of finally breaking his duck in the LBW Michael Bradshaw Maiden Stakes at Nottingham, where Golden Della is given a sporting chance of picking up the LBW Nottingham Handicap if she runs as well as she did when third to Sundar and Millionaire's Row at Beverley.

Blinker first time
BRIGHTON: 4:15 Prince Ibrahim, REDCAR: 3:45 Fragrant Park, NOTTINGHAM: 5:15 345 Fragrant Park, PARIS: 7:15 Prince Of Drama, 7:45 Myveny goodfellow.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 84042 GOOD TIMES 17 (GB) (F) Mrs D Robinson B Hall 9-10 — B West (4) 88
Raced last time Drawn in last place. See Times' guide to last race. Drawn in last place. B — firm, P — good up, U — unplaced, D — down, S — stepped up, R — returned, D — descended, H — hard, C — course, V — very, H — hard, E — especially, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and handicapper's pick.

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Moles and Ratcliffe point the way

By JACK BAILEY

EASTBOURNE (second day of three): Sussex, with five second-innings wickets remaining, are 66 runs behind Warwickshire

ALTHOUGH Alan Wells's half century intruded into the evening, Warwickshire seized the day. They batted down the order with gusto and determination. They were helped by a 50 from Asif Din, who added 78 in 16 overs to the 10th wicket with Gareth Smith, which saw them to a lead of 196 after a century opening partnership between Moles and Ratcliffe had paved the way.

Then, Munton at the helm, five Sussex wickets were captured, and the top of the championship ladder still beckons. But once again the scene was dominated by Tom Moody.

The Australian plays and the impulsive tactics can't be far from his heart, for that turn tumbler over each other for some sort of priority. His 110 yesterday was his sixth century in seven first-class matches for Warwickshire (in the other match he made a 96) and it brought his aggregate of runs to 993 from nine completed innings.

Now, he came in when Warwickshire had added only 36 to their overnight score. Moles had been bowled on the defensive forward stroke, Lloyd had played on. Before long, Ratcliffe was caught behind. In scoring his 101 out of 131 scored from the bat, Moody settled in quickly, stroking the ball in the air between extra cover and mid-wicket, not neglecting to force square of the back foot when the bowler, frustrated by the reach which goes with his 6ft 6in, dropped the ball short. But the bulk of his boundaries – a six and 14 fours – were the result of graceful front-foot driving.

For all the marvellous season Moody is having, there is one piece of news that may bring a small crumb of comfort to the counties who have yet to encounter him. He has a weakness. The answer to his powers would appear to be to let him reach 100, post a long-on and a long-off and sooner or later he may fall into the trap.

The ending of this innings came in just such a manner as he drove Donelson long to long-off. Reliable information has it that he has perished in similar fashion on at least four other occasions this season.

By way of variation, he was caught at deep third man off Malcolm after he had made 168 against Derbyshire. This might be worth noting, also, but scarcely worth banking on.

India decide against a replacement

THE Indian management has decided not to call up a replacement for the slow left-arm bowler, Venkatachary Raju.

Raju's left hand was broken by a ball from the West Indian fast bowler, Courtney Walsh, on the opening day of the match against Gloucestershire at Bristol.

Raju, who will be in plaster for three weeks, will fly home from Manchester later this week. His tour manager, Madhav Mantri, said yesterday: "We have decided not to call up a replacement because he would only be available for a couple of matches by the time he arrived here. We will therefore stick with the remaining 15."

• Derbyshire have awarded county caps to two fast bowlers, the West Indian, Ian Bishop, and Simon Base.

Bishop, regarded as the fastest bowler in the world, is top of the national averages and, on Saturday, claimed six wickets in the championship match against Kent at Chesterfield.

Base has struggled to find his rhythm this season but last summer he claimed 50 first-class wickets.

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Defiant Glamorgan condemn leaders to hard day in field

By IVO TENNANT

LORD'S (second day of three): Glamorgan, with one first-innings wicket in hand, are 87 runs behind Middlesex

THE championship leaders discovered yesterday, as other counties have done before them, that there is a marked consistency about Glamorgan's batting this season. Hugh Morris, with his sixth first-class century, and Vivian Richards, who simply batted in the manner expected of him at Lord's, ensured Middlesex remained in the field for longer than they would have wished, or, perhaps, expected.

At least, they did not have to contend with the intense heat of Saturday. When Richards joined Morris, Glamorgan had lost Butcher and Cottier to Williams, and Maynard had gone, aiming to sweep Tufnell into the building works and, when Cowley returned, pulled him mercifully through mid-wicket.

These were the pick of many fine strokes. Having made 80 of 103 balls, he skied Emburey in attempting to turn him to leg and was held by Maynes, running from slip.

If Morris could not compete with this, his game was enhanced by being at the other end. After taking almost three hours over his first 50 runs, his second came considerably more quickly. By now he was seeing the ball well enough to adjust his shot when Emburey beat him through the air and still find the mid-wicket.

Williams was the pick of the catch, adding the wickets of Metson, Watkin and Bastien to his two in the morning and yet it was essentially a pitch which favoured spin. The ball turned slowly all day.

As cricketers, there can be little that Morris and Richards have in common. Morris never discards his helmet and arm guard, even when the spinners are on, and works the

ball all round the wicket like the accumulator he is. Richards, of course, is the very antithesis of all that.

He began yesterday so languidly that he gave two chances, both hard ones, to mid-wicket and guilty before he had sorted out his timing. Then there were a couple of deft sweeps or paddles, perhaps, and he was away. Having reached his 1,000 runs for the season – he is averaging more than 50 – he drove Tufnell into the building works and, when Cowley returned, pulled him mercifully through mid-wicket.

Nothing, though, ruffled Morris until, having reached his third century in successive championship matches, with 14 fours, he was caught flicking at Cowley down the leg side. This was an unsatisfactory end.

Cowley then had Croft caught at guilty, but Cowley, paraded by Metson, made certain Middlesex would have to struggle to extend their lead at the top of the championship. Cowley reached a half-century off the last ball of the day.

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What with the racket emanating from the Compton and Edrich stands as well as from helicopters and police sirens as a result of the discovery of a bomb in the neighbourhood, there was every excuse for a batsman losing his concentration.

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FOOTBALL

PFA unhappy about foreign players in English game

By STEVE ACTON

GORDON Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association has criticised the number of cut-price foreign players being allowed to play in the Football League.

Taylor said: "I have already contacted the FA and League to express our fears at the number of foreign players being allowed in while there are so many of our own players looking for new clubs.

"I don't want to put up an Iron Curtain in reverse, but I think a lot of these imports are only being brought in because they are cheap."

Taylor said it often cost less to bring players in from Eastern Europe and Scandinavia than to deal in the transfer market here. "But it doesn't mean that they are any better than those readily available," he said. "I don't want to see football ending up like cricket."

PETER Lee, a former civil servant, has been appointed secretary of the Football Trust 1990 (Louise Taylor writes). Funded by the pool companies, the organisation is a discretionary trust which gives grants financing the improvement of football grounds.

With stadiums required to become all-seated by 1994 in the wake of Lord Justice Taylor's report into the Hillsborough disaster, Lee is assuming the role at a critical time. He has

with young players being neglected, for players from abroad.

"We can't stop our own players going abroad, but we should make sure those coming in are, at least, of a similar standard."

The closure of Aldershot would leave another 15 full-time professionals looking for employment and there may be more if the two former internationals, on a month's trial at Highfield Road, are taken on by Coventry City.

The Hungarian midfield player, Zoltan Csucsanzy, of Videoton, and the Uruguayan defender, Jose Perdomo, are both expected to play in the home friendly match on Friday against Aston Villa's Czechoslovakian Uefa Cup opponents, Banik Ostrava.

Notts County, who are considering the purchase of the West German, Matthias Hamann, will take another look at him tonight in their friendly at Barnet. Aged 22 and registered with Bayern Munich, Hamann played on loan for Fortune Cologne last season and impressed Neil Warnock, the Notts County manager, on Saturday after coming on as substitute in the 3-1 victory over Boston United. He is valued at around £100,000.

The Football League's increasingly cosmopolitan appearance will be heightened tonight when the new Aston Villa manager, Jozef Venglos, has a first look at his players in competitive action.

The former national coach of Czechoslovakia takes charge for the pre-season friendly against Bohemians, not of Prague but of Dublin, to mark the Irish club's centenary. The match will provide a useful workout for Villa's Makita Cup match against Arsenal on Friday.

• Sheffield United are to sign the Bournemouth goalkeeper, Phil Kite, as £25,000 replacement for Graham Beauchamp, who has joined Brentford for £30,000.

• The Portsmouth forward, Jimmy Gilligan, has joined Swansea City for £125,000 less than a year after his £125,000 transfer from Cardiff.

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Lee takes over at helm

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With stadiums required to become all-seated by 1994 in the wake of Lord Justice Taylor's report into the Hillsborough disaster, Lee is assuming the role at a critical time. He has

responsibility for administering the Trust's annual income of £30 million and considering grant applications from clubs.

During a civil service career spanning 25 years, Lee, aged 44, was the chairman of the Council of Europe's Standing committee on sport, and the Minister of Sport's observer to the Football Trust. He played a leading role in the government's preparations for the World Cup finals.

• Jim Bett, the Scottish international midfield player, last night turned down a £500,000 move from Aberdeen to Nottingham Forest.

Brian Clough, the Forest manager, had flown back from the club's pre-season tour in Sweden hoping to conclude the deal, which would have ended his year-long search for a replacement for Neil Webb. But Bett, who had two spells with the Belgian club, Lokeren, pulled out of the deal without even talking to Clough.

• I'll be speaking to Aberdeen later this week about a new contract and hope to be staying with them."

• John Boag, the former Aberdeen defender, will know after playing for Morton in tomorrow night's friendly with

Wimbledon whether his move to Birmingham City will go ahead. Dave Mackay, the Birmingham manager, wants to watch him tomorrow before confirming the £100,000 deal.

• Aldershot may have at last found the money they need to save themselves from closure. The club secretary, John Pollard, said yesterday that the club was collecting money that had been pledged and that it could have enough to settle its debts. I even have to get to that by boat."

Life aboard Rothmans was anything but pleasant during the Round the World Race. Below

is a sea dog of no fixed abode

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AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NFL must not sell short its support

By ROBERT KIRLEY

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That might explain why the game drew 63,106 spectators, the lowest figure in the series. Wembley is an all-seater stadium for the first time, but this year's attendance represents a substantial drop from the 82,699 supporters who attended the inaugural game in 1986, in which Chicago beat Dallas 17-6.

The lack of a headline player probably affected the general marketability of the game on Sunday. "The Bridge," Montana, Marino, Dickens and Cunningham, who were among the leading lights in the earlier games, did not have a counterpart this year.

The "globalisation" of the National Football League has diluted the pool of teams available for foreign service. This year, other pre-season games are being played in Montreal, Tokyo and Berlin. Britain has loudly supported the American Bowl, but the NFL planners should recognise that Atlanta v Phoenix would not threaten the attendance record.

These were not top-drawer teams. When the series started, it was the intention to pair the previous season's Super Bowl contestants, or, at least, to match "near misses" or clubs with traditional cachet. The Raiders won three Super Bowls in yester-year, but neither they

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SPORT

TUESDAY AUGUST 7 1990

Rothenberg's election good for World Cup



Fricker: months of infighting

By STEVE ACTESON

ALAN Rothenberg yesterday took over as president of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and promised "a new vision" for the game in America. In describing his election as the "last hope for soccer in the United States", Rothenberg revealed the determination of the US to go ahead with the staging of the 1994 World Cup finals.

Rothenberg, a Los Angeles attorney, had much to do with the success of the football tournament at the 1984 Olympic Games. He said he stood for president at the urging of officials of Fifa, the governing body of world football. He easily beat Werner Fricker, the incumbent, and Paul Stiehl, the USSF treasurer, for the post, which carries a four-year term. At the USSF annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, on Sunday, Rothenberg received 343.9 votes while Fricker finished second with 169.66. Stiehl received 69.2 votes. After watching the USSF

membership become divided by months of bitter campaigning between Fricker and Stiehl over the direction of World Cup management, Rothenberg became a surprise late entry promising "a fresh perspective".

Fifa prompted Rothenberg to run. "They put the bug in my ear," Rothenberg said. Stiehl said such dealings amounted to a "hostile takeover" of the USSF and its involvement as organiser of the 1994 finals.

"What is fair about outside interference?" Stiehl said. "This electoral process has been orchestrated. We are under siege."

Many of the USSF membership said that they had become weary of the infighting between Stiehl and Fricker and were also concerned about Fifa's lack of confidence in the candidates. The election of Rothenberg was not a surprise but the overwhelming majority was a clear mandate to shake up the structure of football in the United States.

Stiehl was the head of the USSF group that put together the United States' bid to host the 1994 World Cup. After Fifa had awarded the tournament to the United States ahead of Brazil and Morocco in July 1988, many thought he would be named to head World Cup '94, the USSF subsidiary handling the organisation.

But Fricker appointed Scott LeTellier, a corporate lawyer, who has run it for a year and a half. There have also been disagreements within the membership over the national team, which although qualifying for the World Cup for the first time in 40 years, was defeated in all three first-round games in Italy in June. Other disputes have concerned the method of forming a professional outdoor league, which was promised as part of the American bid to host the World Cup.

"I promised a new vision for soccer in the US," Rothenberg said. "The membership obviously felt this was a golden moment for a change." Ted Croker, the former secretary of the Football Association and a respected figure in international football, last night welcomed the changes. "This should get things moving," he said. "I felt he was a stumbling block as far as getting help from experienced people like myself to organise the event."

Croker was approached by the now-defunct Los Angeles Aztecs of the North American Soccer League, described his election the "last hope for soccer in the United States."

He said he would evaluate the USSF executive. He is expected to make sweeping changes and to move the World Cup '94 organising committee from Washington, DC, to Los Angeles to take advantage of his ties with media and marketing there.

Rothenberg takes over an organisation which faces a massive task in preparing for 1994. It has still to negotiate a television deal and sponsorship for the tournament as well as to arrange venues and marketing schemes.

Dick Ebersol, the president of NBC Sports, has said that NBC would not bid for the rights to the 1994 finals and predicted that neither ABC nor CBS would either. Ted Turner Broadcasting's TNT cable network showed selected games from Italy and suffered dismal ratings.

However, Dr Henry Kissinger, a member of the CBS board of directors, is confident that one major network would televise at least a portion of some matches. It may be difficult to attract advertisers since football does not lend itself to commercials while talk of splitting matches into quarters does not find much favour in the game.

Fifa is known to have been concerned at the lack of urgency in the American preparation, especially after the success of the World Cup finals in Italy this summer. There have even been suggestions that the tournament would be moved to another country.

Gateshead outing for Cram in his build-up to Split

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

STEVE Cram will compete in his native north-east as part of his crash course race programme before the European championships in Split at the end of this month. He is to run in a specially arranged 1,000 metres in the Pearl Assurance meeting at Gateshead on Friday week.

Cram, who will be making his first international appearance for more than a year, representing England against a Commonwealth select team, was chosen for Split at the weekend despite little significant recent racing form.

"I have not quite worked out my programme in the run-up to the championships but I shall definitely be running at Gateshead and I could be in a competitive situation before then," Cram said. His last international race in Britain was against Kenya at Crystal Palace 13 months ago. On that occasion a calf injury forced him to drop out, an ailment which cost him the chance of a third successive Commonwealth 1,500 metres title.

However, a third successive European title remains in prospect. He was chosen, with Peter Elliott and Neil Horsfield, with no conditions attached so far as proving his form was concerned, despite ranking seventh in Britain this summer. He has been troubled by an Achilles tendon injury but, when attempting to prove

his recovery, at the Panasonic AAA championships at the weekend, he withdrew from the final because he was suffering from gastro-enteritis.

While things get better for Cram, they get worse for Tony Morell. Ranked second to Elliott at both the mile and 1,500 metres this season, he was selected only as reserve. It was a red card to follow the yellow one, which was how the British Amateur Athletic Board on Sunday termed the warning he was to get for the incident in which he was involved after Saturday's 1,500 metres final. But yellow could yet turn to red.

The Board yesterday received allegations that what happened close to the incident, in which Morell appeared to cuff Steve Halliday after both had been run off the track with 250 metres to go, that the athletes had used abusive language and that Morell had punched Halliday. Both said that no blow had been struck.

Rodwell yesterday contacted Morell and Halliday to await the outcome of the AAA's investigation. Steve Heard is waiting for Mathew Yates. If Yates fails to secure a European championship 800 metres qualifying time by Friday week, Heard will replace him. The question Heard is asking is: "Why am I having to wait?"

Heard, the third Briton in the trial, has achieved the 1.47.00sec qualifying time on five occasions this season while Yates has failed in as many outings. Trevor Rodwell, the anguished athlete's coach, is to make sure that, if his charge is not to be seen in Split, Heard will be there.

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"We are receiving information from marksmen around the track and people in the crowd who are associated with the AAA (Amateur Athletic Association) that there was a loud verbal altercation between Halliday and Morell and that a blow was administered," Tony Ward, the Board's spokesman, said. "John Loftus, the track referee, is submitting a report in which he is making a complaint about both Morell and Halliday."

"The AAA will have to take this up because what we are talking about is behaviour and demeanour of the kind we do not desire. Fortunately, the television cameras were not following the incident."

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The name, British Aerospace, will appear prominently during programmes. The project is described as "narrow casting, or specific broadcasting to subscribers with specific needs".

Gerald O'Connell, head of British Aerospace sports and leisure services, said that a large number of first division fixtures would also be covered, but these would be primarily the ones to be recorded for Tuesday and Wednesday evening viewing.

"One advantage to the clubs will be that sets will be installed in the social clubs throughout the league, and members and supporters will be attracted to the grounds to watch the game," he said.

O'Connell added that initially the British Aerospace Sportscast transmissions would be concentrated on licensed premises in the existing rugby league strongholds, but eventually the service

Satellite takes rugby league to viewers in pubs and clubs

By KEITH MACKLIN and JOHN GOODBODY

SPORTING satellite television entered a new sphere yesterday when British Aerospace announced a £1.5 million deal with the Rugby Football League (RFL) in which, for the next three seasons, it will beam 90 matches a season direct to pubs, clubs and other licensed premises through its own satellite and receivers.

Although Satellite Information Services (SIS) screens horse and greyhound race meetings into betting shops, this is the first time that a company, whose interests are predominantly outside sport, has adopted the practice.

The deal will be worth £500,000 a season to the League and will give considerable exposure to second division games not normally screened by the major terrestrial and satellite companies. There will be a live match each Sunday lunchtime, with a 1pm kick-off, and recorded games on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The first transmission will be on August 26.

Mark Rooney, the head of Sportscast, part of British Aerospace, said the project was "pioneering" and, although it would involve just rugby league in the initial stages, the satellite was ex-

pected to be used to screen other programmes.

A licensee can hire a 3ft screen and the receiving equipment for the average of £20 a game and should benefit from attracting more customers and so higher sales.

The coding is so sophisticated that private use will be virtually impossible.

The name, British Aerospace, will appear prominently during programmes. The project is described as "narrow casting, or specific broadcasting to subscribers with specific needs".

Gerald O'Connell, head of British Aerospace sports and leisure services, said that a large number of first division fixtures would also be covered, but these would be primarily the ones to be recorded for Tuesday and Wednesday evening viewing.

"One advantage to the clubs will be that sets will be installed in the social clubs throughout the league, and members and supporters will be attracted to the grounds to watch the game," he said.

O'Connell added that initially the British Aerospace Sportscast transmissions would be concentrated on licensed premises in the existing rugby league strongholds, but eventually the service

would go nationwide, and after the initial trial period with rugby league, other sports would be brought into the network.

"The game of rugby league is becoming more and more popular, particularly with amateur clubs, throughout Britain," O'Connell said. "I know personally of strong pockets of amateur rugby league and followers in places like Newmarket, Cheltenham and Hemel Hempstead, and our transmissions will be welcomed in these areas and other pockets of developing rugby league interest."

David Oxley, the chief executive of the RFL, said that the income from British Aerospace and other television contracts would not be used solely for compensating clubs who have to move their kick-off times to accommodate television coverage. He said that a large proportion of the money would go to essential ground improvements and to creating more comfortable stadiums for supporters.

Maurice Lindsay, the member of the league's board of directors responsible for television coverage, said a total of £1.5 million would be received from five TV contracts next season. The others are BBC, Granada, Yorkshire and BS.

BSB lands rights for title contest

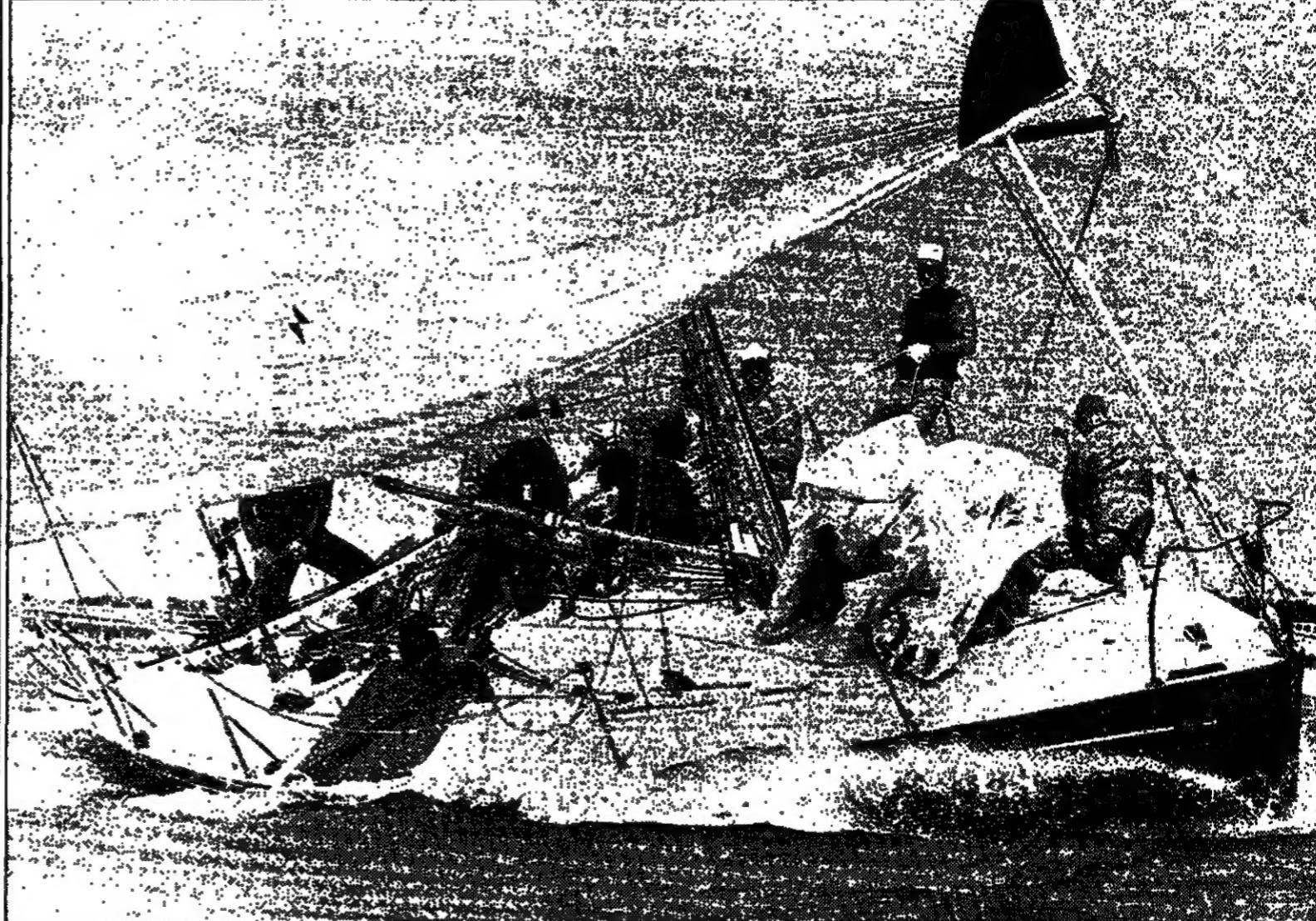
shown live from Las Vegas, is the second world championship contest to be captured by a British satellite station. Sky showed exclusively in the unified world heavyweight boxing title bout on October 25 between James "Buster" Douglas, the world champion, and Evander Holyfield, the No. 1 contender (Steve Acteson writes).

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shown live from Las Vegas, is the second world championship contest to be captured by a British satellite station. Sky showed exclusively in the unified world heavyweight boxing title bout on October 25 between James "Buster" Douglas, the world champion, and Evander Holyfield, the No. 1 contender (Steve Acteson writes).

Weathering the storm at the Cowes demolition derby

MARK PEPPER



Sailing close to the wind: Red Stripe (Don Wood) battles against the elements in class two

The day the Duke lost a battle royal

By BARRY PICKTHALL

BROACHES, blown spinnakers, downmasts and at least one sinking turned Cowes into something of a demolition derby yesterday as the north-westerly winds, gusting to force five, caught out a large number of the 800 crews.

The Duke of Edinburgh sidestepped a commercial controversy within the Sigma 38 by stepping aboard John Green's Daring class keelboat Deinos to race against the Princess Royal and her son Peter in Division Belle. He lost that battle by one place, finishing the day

thirteenth, but also sacrificed a fine ride aboard Yeoman XVIII, steered yesterday by King Constantine in order to preserve a royal embargo on product endorsements.

The controversy blew up because of the insistence that all the Sigma 38s carry the sponsor's logo on their lines for yesterday's Land Rover Trophy race. King Constantine, vice-president of the International Yacht Racing Union, the sport's governing body, which set the rules regarding sponsorship, had no such qualms and finished the day second, 10 seconds behind

David Chatterton's Sensor.

David Bishop, who has commissioned a new Rob Humphreys design to contest next year's Admiral's Cup, gained his first taste of success by carrying off the Sir Walter Preston Challenge Cup for class one yachts. His yacht Jockey Club missed just five seconds ahead of Centurion (J. Dick) on corrected time, leaving David Head's Aids of Brighton, Monday's winner, trailing in fourth place, slowed by a series of spectacular broaches during the first tight spinaker leg on their 28-mile course around the Solent.

They were not alone. The

gusting wind caught a great many out on that first eastward reach, leading to shredded spinnakers and several downmasts among the Etchells' keelboat class favoured yesterday by Prince Edward, who steered Patrick Chisolm's Aquaviva to twelfth place. Honours went instead to Stephen Fein's Full Pelt, which scored a runaway four-minute win over Point Blank (D. Evans) and Richard Power's Jessica, the winner on Sunday.

Honours in class two fell to Paul Dyer's entry Harmony 87, a hard-won record shared only by Chris Ratsey's

Cowes Notebook, page 35

Indians refuse to set target

By JOHN WOODCOCK

BRISTOL: (final day of three) Gloucestershire drew with the Indians

TO THE disappointment of a reasonable crowd and a jero-boom of sponsored guests, the Indians opted not to set Gloucestershire a target at Bristol yesterday. When eventually they declared they were 324 runs ahead with a minimum of 38 overs left.

The Indian bunting being as attractive as their bowling is generally ineffectual, watching Shastri and Sidhu make 251 together for the first wicket was no hardship. On the other hand, the purpose of the Tetley Bitter sponsorship is to keep such matches alive.

It contributed valuably to the New Zealanders' tour earlier in the summer. The Indians were unimpressed. I gather, with the way Leicestershire and Surrey, captained by Briers and Greig respectively, conducted affairs on the third day of earlier matches, and this may have influenced Azharuddin now.

While Walsh and Lawrence were bowling at the start of the day the cricket was properly competitive. After that the runs flowed, as Lloyds' figures (21-0-136-1) show. An unusual feature of the Shastri-Sidhu partnership in this age of the no-ball was that only two of the runs came in extras. There was credit here not only for the bowlers, but also for Williams, Russell's understudy behind the wicket, who has played more village cricket than most who come into the first-class game. In India, where 90 per cent of the huge population is rural, there is virtually no village cricket at all.

The Indians probably wished they had declared earlier when they reduced

East Germany hit by financial snags

From DAVID MILLER IN KINGSTON, RHODE ISLAND

SUCHI is the state of collapse on East Germany's estate of sporting finance that not only is the staging of their national athletic championships in Dresden in doubt in ten days' time, but so is the participation of their team in the European championships in Split, Yugoslavia, at the end of this month.

Klaus Huhn, one of East Germany's most experienced sports journalists, from *Neues Deutschland* in Berlin, who is here attending an international seminar on sporting ethics in the media, said yesterday: "No one knows nowadays how much money will be available for anything from the Ministry of Sport from one week to the next. It could well be that there is insufficient finance to send a team to Split. We are waiting to know whether the answer is yes or no, and if yes, how much there will be and how many competitors can be sent."

It is a pitiful decline from power for one of the world's three strongest athletic nations, following the unification of the Deutchmark and with West Germany. "Sport is operating on an emergency service," Huhn said.

Adamashvili record MOSCOW (Reuter) — Vladimír Adamashvili, of the Soviet Union, set a world cycling record of 10,099sec in the men's 200 metres flying start, at the indoor track at Moscow's Krylatskoye velodrome.

July 1985